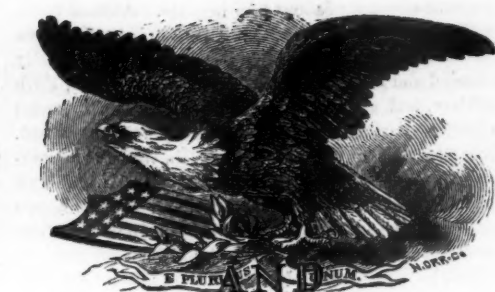


ARMY

GAZETTE OF THE
REGULAR



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A CASE OF REPUDIATION.

THE Secretary of the Navy, in both of his last two reports, called the attention of Congress to a gross violation of the Government's contract with the officers and seamen of the Navy—amounting, in fact, to absolute repudiation. If this repudiation had affected the interests of Wall street, instead of less than three thousand disabled men and the widows and orphans of sailors who died in the service of the country, it would have encountered angry remonstrance. As it is, however, scarcely any one outside of the Navy is even aware of the fact. Although the Secretary has twice exposed the repudiation, no remedy has yet been granted by Congress.

By an act of Congress passed on the 29th day of April, 1800, it was provided that all money accruing, or which had already accrued to the United States from the sale of prizes, should be and remain forever a fund for the payment of pensions and half pay to the officers and seamen who should be entitled to receive the same; and that if such fund should be more than sufficient for the purpose, the surplus should be applied to the making of further provision for the comfort of the disabled officers, seamen, and marines.

On the 17th day of July, 1862, when the law was revised, this provision was re-enacted, in almost the same words. Thus it will be seen that when the opening of the war promised a large increase of the fund, Congress expressly ratified the old law, and thereby made the prospect of enjoying its benefits an element in the contract with the sailors and marines.

Relying upon the pledged faith of the Government, the officers and men of the Navy, by their bravery and endurance, accumulated a fund which now amounts to \$14,000,000. This sum has been invested by the Secretary of the Navy, as the trustee of the Naval Pension Fund, in registered Government six per cent. securities, paying interest in gold.

It would seem, after the solemn enactment of the year 1800, re-enacted in 1862, that the public honor was pledged to the provisions of this law. Yet, on the 23d day of July, 1868, Congress passed an act reducing the rate of interest on the Naval Pension Fund to three per cent. in *lawful money*, thus causing it to produce only \$420,000 in currency, whereas the actual income from that fund is \$840,000 in gold, or about \$1,125,000 in currency, at the present rate of gold. In November, 1868, the Navy pension-roll reached 2,726 persons, receiving \$347,031 19—a little over one-third of the amount which the fund produces.

That this fund morally and equitably belongs to the officers and men who earned it, and ought

to be applied to the making of further provision for their support when disabled, and for the support of the widows and orphans of those who have died in battle or from disease contracted in the performance of duty, admits of no doubt whatever. If the fund had reached such proportions that its income was very much more than adequate for the purposes to which it had been pledged, it would certainly have been honest for Congress to choose the direct method of reducing the principal, instead of resorting to the repudiation of more than half the interest on certain Government bonds in which the fund was unfortunately invested. "Had this loan," the Secretary well says, "been made to States or individuals on the terms specified, the contract would have been literally fulfilled."

The fund, however, is not too large for the purposes to which it was originally and beneficently devoted. The act of 1800 especially provided that the surplus over and above what was necessary for the payment of pensions and half pay, "should be applied to the making of further provision for the comfort of the disabled officers, seamen, and marines." Certainly it cannot be denied that there was ample opportunity for carrying out this purpose. But, as the Secretary twice pointed out, there is reason and necessity for increasing the present pensions, which are miserably insufficient. The highest pension now paid in our Navy is *thirty dollars a month*. How inadequate this is for the support of a family we do not need to show. As the result of this parsimony, we hear of cases where the widows of officers have been driven to the severest labor to support themselves and their families. The \$347,000 last year dispensed might, therefore, reasonably be doubled. Even then those entitled to the money would be only moderately provided for. Moreover, the present pension laws make no provision for pensions to the families of the admiral, vice-admiral, rear-admirals, commodores, and other grades of the line and staff. These are entitled to the benefits of the fund they have aided in accumulating, and especially should they not be overslaughed when its income is considered more than sufficient for the present pensioners.

This fund, it should always be remembered, has not been taken from the people of the country, but from the enemies of the country. It has cost the treasury nothing, and has added nothing to taxation. In addition, it may be remarked that the division of prize money between the immediate captors of the prizes and a fund for the benefit of the whole Navy, went far to remedy what necessary injustice there might be in the circumstance that some had greater opportunities for taking prizes than others. The half that went to the captors has been paid, while the general fund is reduced more than one-half. The injustice of this is apparent enough in the mere statement.

So, in whatever way you look at it, the legislation of July, 1868, is entirely indefensible. It is probable that the bill was pushed through in haste, and that there was no proper understanding of the injustice involved in it. We hope, therefore, that all that is needed is to bring the attention of Congress to the subject to secure a reversal of its former action.

THE Naval Register, for 1869, has just made its appearance, recording the changes during the year, which have been already fully noticed from time to time, in our weekly record of the changes in the naval service.

GENERALS BUTTERFIELD and INGALLS have reconsidered their determination to call at Washington the preliminary meeting of officers desirous of forming a Society of the Army of the Potomac, and now announce the place of meeting to be New York, and the time, the 22d of February next, at noon. They have received authority to append to their circular the names of many of the surviving general officers connected with that Army during its career. The large number of officers who have sent their names to the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL office for the same purpose, will be good enough to accept this as an invitation to be present and take part in the organization. Due notice will be given of the particular place of meeting. The question of the organization of the proposed society, and particularly of its presidency, has already been made a theme of discussion, and many names of candidates have been suggested as likely to further the objects of the society. Without anticipating too much the definite action of the Society, we may safely say that *general principles* ought to guide the selection, rather than the personal likings of friends and admirers. It is clear, for example, that the officer so chosen, should, if possible, be one who can unite the largest number of old members of the Army in the Society; one who was as high in command as it is possible to secure; one whose services were pre-eminent; and one whose connection with the Army was long continued.

Taking all these and other requisites into consideration, among the half dozen names which we have heard suggested, it seems to us that the choice points obviously to General MEADE. He was with the Army from beginning to end; he commanded it in its most famous battle; he served it in many grades; he commanded it much longer than any other officer; he led it to triumph at the close of the war. We do not doubt that, if he is willing to undertake the leadership of the new Society, he would not only be acceptable to its members, but there would be an obvious sense of fitness in the choice. Moreover, the strength of the General's name would add strength to the Society. We trust, however, that whatever choice shall be made, it will be that which will secure the greatest unanimity and harmony.

WE have received a tabulated statement of meteorological observations made at Sitka, Alaska Territory, for year ending October 31, 1868, by Assistant Surgeon A. H. Hoff, the Medical Director of the Department of Alaska. The statement has great value in settling the question as to the climate of Sitka, and removing current erroneous impressions. The following is a summary of the results of the observations:

Average temperature.....	44.07 degrees
Rain fall.....	68.07 inches
Fair days.....	107.06
Cloudy days.....	237.07
Rainy days.....	124
Snow.....	26
Coldest day, February 11th.....	11 degrees above zero
Warmest day, June 20th.....	71 degrees

It will be seen from the above that Sitka is not the arctic-cold region it has been supposed.

BREVET Colonel George A. Forsyth, major of the Ninth Cavalry, has been brevetted brigadier-general, for gallant conduct in the engagement of September last with the Indians.

THE ARMY.

A CORRESPONDENT writes us that headquarters and three companies of the Twenty-ninth Infantry arrived at Jefferson, Texas, December 11th, and the whole regiment is now stationed at that place. The garrison consists of the Twenty-ninth Infantry, two companies of the Fifteenth Infantry, and two companies of the Fourth Cavalry, Brevet Brigadier-General Geo. P. Buell, lieutenant-colonel Twenty-ninth Infantry, commanding.

THE Washington correspondent of the Boston *Advertiser* reports that the House committee on freedmen's affairs, has instructed its chairman to report against all projects for a further extension of the bureau. They are convinced that the reconstruction laws give military commanders the power to extend all necessary aid and protection to the freedmen. For this reason the committee are against the bill in question. They will, however, report favorably upon the bill continuing the freedmen's hospitals at Washington, Richmond, Vicksburg, and New Orleans, for another year.

A COMMUNICATION has been transmitted to the U. S. Senate by the Secretary of the Interior, recommending to favorable consideration a letter from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs submitting an estimate for "an appropriation required for medallions of U. S. Grant, President of the United States, for distribution to Indian tribes. The communication states that it is customary when a President is elected to have medallions of such President made and distributed to the head men of the tribes who have proved deserving of some special mark of favor or recognition, and he therefore asks that an appropriation of \$5,000 be made for that purpose now.

GENERAL Sherman has received information that representatives from four hundred Comanche lodges have arrived at Fort Bascom, New Mexico, and offer to surrender. They were notified that no surrender would be received, except at Fort Cobb—the object being to have all the tribes on the Plains within watching distance of General Sheridan. Arizona advices state that Shorum, chief of the Hualapai Indians, escaped from the guard while en route to San Francisco for confinement. Colonel Rice has organized an expedition against the savages. He surprised and destroyed two villages, and killed eleven and captured twenty Indians. He also captured a large quantity of supplies.

In General Order No. 1 for 1869, General Grant calls attention to the fact, that paragraph 166, General Regulations of 1863, requires the cause of discharge of a soldier to be stated in the body of the parchment certificate furnished for the purpose, and the space at foot for character to be cut off, unless a recommendation is given. It frequently happens that discharged men who apply to be again enlisted at places where they are unknown, exhibit discharges with certificates of good character attached, when they are afterward found to be intemperate or otherwise unworthy. To preserve as far as possible the morale of the Army, officers whose duty it is to sign certificates of character for discharged soldiers will be particularly careful to word the certificates according to the facts; or to cut off the space left for that purpose when the conduct of the soldier has been such as to show him not to be fit for re-enlistment.

THE War Department has issued orders directing that at the headquarters of every regiment of cavalry, with every company of cavalry and battery of mounted artillery, and with the records of every officer in immediate charge of public animals, a descriptive list of the horses and mules shall be kept, showing the name, age, size, color, and other peculiarities of each animal, how and when acquired, his fitness for service, how long he has been in the service, the name of his rider or driver, and the particular use to which he is or was applied. Veterinary surgeons are to have free access to the stables, and their suggestions for the care and treatment of horses must be enforced by the authority of the commanding officer. Particular instructions are given how horses shall be treated, both in the stable and in service. As the gallop very soon breaks them down, it is strictly prohibited on marches, escorts, express and other duties, except when absolutely necessary. A depot is established on the Fort Leavenworth Reservation for the reception of the unserviceable horses and mules in the military division of the Missouri.

We receive reports this week from various quarters, through the daily papers, of troubles of one sort or another among the negroes, which have called for action by our troops. In Virginia the Sheriff of Princess Anne County called for assistance, stating that in attempting to serve a writ of ejectment he had been forcibly resisted

by an armed band of about fifty negroes. A small force, under Lieutenant Farragut, was sent to his aid; an encounter took place, in which a sergeant was mortally wounded and three negroes killed; but Battery A, Fifth Artillery, had at last accounts been sent from Richmond to Norfolk, to reinforce the troops, and quiet had resulted. From St. Louis, under date of the 11th, we have a Leavenworth report to the effect that a white man had been recently murdered at Hays City, Kansas, by three negro soldiers belonging to the Thirty-eighth Infantry. The murderers were arrested and lodged in jail preparatory to trial, but during the night they were taken from prison by the Vigilance Committee and hung to the nearest trees. The telegraph also reports that trouble between the white and negro soldiers at Fort Larned has occurred, and that the negroes had to be removed from the post and escorted a distance from it. From Clarksville, Texas, come the details of the murder of two revenue inspectors by a gang of Mexicans and negroes, organized in Mexico. The War Department, on the request of the Secretary of the Treasury, has adopted measures to secure the safety of civil officers of the Government on duty along the Rio Grande. We are glad to receive assurances that the troubles in Ogeechee, Georgia, are about at an end. The deputy sheriff, with a guard of eight United States soldiers had, at the last report, brought in sixty-seven prisoners.

WE learn that some time ago a special committee, consisting of H. D. Washburn, H. E. Paine, and J. L. Getz, was appointed by the House of Representatives to investigate the delay in the payment of the extra bounty to soldiers and sailors. The committee had an interview with Second Auditor French, who declared that it would be impracticable to examine all the claims properly with the force of clerks under his control in less than three years. The committee reported a bill authorizing the appointment of extra clerks to facilitate the business, which was passed, and the result now is that with forty additional clerks nearly every one of the claims for bounty has been examined and either paid or rejected. The following tabular statement has been prepared by the committee, showing the number of additional bounty claims paid, number rejected and amount of money disbursed to December 31, 1868:

	No. Paid.	No. Rejected.	Amount Disbursed.
New York.....	45,631	2,312	\$4,437,655
Indiana.....	36,022	6,655	5,196,297
Iowa.....	10,787	702	1,668,160
Missouri.....	11,708	1,306	1,146,450
Pennsylvania.....	32,555	1,252	3,198,707
Indiana (Home Guard).....	1,447	748	144,200
Alabama.....	109	63	19,722
Arkansas.....	2,696	174	269,550
California.....	2,836	1,035	281,550
Colorado.....	1,137	70	112,500
Dakota.....	157	2	15,400
Florida.....	184	75	18,400
Georgia.....	2	40	200
Kansas.....	6,602	450	653,105
Kentucky.....	11,568	1,250	1,138,071
Louisiana.....	963	86	96,050
Minnesota.....	4,604	284	448,188
Mississippi.....	16	13	1,600
Nebraska.....	237	16	23,530
Nevada.....	245	36	24,500
New Mexico.....	608	78	60,450
North Carolina.....	1,114	575	111,400
Oregon.....	197	318	19,600
Tennessee.....	9,887	1,682	984,643
Texas.....	142	17	14,100
Washington Territory.....	221	94	21,700
District Columbia.....	505	63	49,700
Maryland.....	4,844	442	481,828
West Virginia.....	8,022	461	796,875
Delaware.....	1,217	137	120,699
New Jersey.....	5,613	512	557,268
Michigan.....	12,969	1,164	1,280,540
Wisconsin.....	12,336	746	1,213,826
Illinois.....	42,889	2,121	4,227,340
Maine.....	53,200	1,124	5,143,122
New Hampshire.....	4,302	683	423,738
Vermont.....	3,496	516	330,175
Connecticut.....	5,886	569	578,738
Massachusetts.....	12,834	1,584	1,236,160
Rhode Island.....	2,530	256	250,080
United States Army.....	9,302	1,189	904,798
Veteran Reserve Corps.....	28,701	1,057	2,766,743
Total.....	399,027	34,987	38,725,018

THE following report relating to affairs in Arkansas has been received at General Grant's headquarters from General Horace Porter, of his staff:

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, Dec. 26, 1868.

GENERAL: General Babcock and I arrived here two days ago. So many contradictory reports have been circulated in regard to Governor Clayton's militia that it may be well for you to know the facts in the case. The present State Government was certainly in some danger previous to the Presidential election. Senator Barker had been shot and wounded badly; Mr. Upham, of the lower House, wounded; Mr. Hines, a member of Congress and a Freedmen's Bureau agent, killed, and other agents and a United States marshal driven from their posts by threats. The Governor, Senator Rice and others had to sleep in the State House, under guard, for fear of assassination. The Governor wisely refrained from taking any violent measures until after the election, fearing that the opposition might make capital out of it. As soon as it was over, however, he organized a militia force about 800 men, one-fourth colored, under General Catterson in the south-west and Upham in the north-east, with orders to live off the country, taking what was absolutely necessary and giving vouchers. His intention is to pay all loyal holders of vouchers, and no others. Two assassins have been executed by sentence of a military commission. Seventeen others are

in prison, and a great number have been run out of the State. But the best result I can see is the disposition of all business men to voluntarily enroll themselves as a posse pledged to assist the sheriffs to arrest lawless characters if the Government will relieve them from martial law. He has accepted many such pledges, and martial law exists in only parts of seven counties. The entire conservative wing of the Republican party were opposed to the declaration of martial law, including General Smith of the United States Army, commanding the troops in the State. They admitted the reign of terror established by the rebels, but wanted the United States to make the arrests. Governor Clayton's arguments in favor of his policy are as follows: The United States troops do not know the people and the country. The lawless behave while the United States troops are in the vicinity, and break out worse than ever when they are gone. The rebels are generally anxious to have them, as it creates an expenditure of money in their midst, from which they reap a benefit. The militia punishes all the disloyal and extorts pledges from them to respect the laws. As the people have threatened to break up the State Government as soon as the United States troops are removed, this teaches them that the State is able to protect itself. The militia have been under tolerable good control, and the plundering reported in the press is the taking of supplies under orders. One negro militia man committed rape on a white woman, but was immediately arrested by General Catterson (who seems to be a very good man), tried, convicted, and promptly executed. The Governor's policy has no doubt seriously interfered with business where martial law has been proclaimed, and injured business men of all parties, hence the opposition from loyalists. It has interfered with trade, taken off hands for the militia at a season when they were badly needed, and created many panics. It has, however, accomplished much more good than the most sanguine expected, and General Smith acknowledged that he thought the Governor's judgment was better than his own, and that the result would fully justify the action of the former. The Governor is now disposed to relieve each county from martial law as soon as it can be done safely. The Governor is certainly a man of intelligence and nerve, and has labored under difficulties that would have deterred a less able officer. Four thousand arms were seized by the Ku Klux and thrown off the boat below Memphis. He could seldom secure good men for officers, and in the eastern counties he had to depend entirely upon the negroes for soldiers. Very respectfully,

HORACE PORTER, A. D. C.

BREVET Major-General Augur, commanding Department of the Platte, has issued the following order:

The melancholy duty devolves upon the Commanding General of announcing to this command the decease of Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel George Pomeroy, paymaster U. S. Army, of pneumonia, at his station in this city, on the 1st instant.

Colonel Pomeroy entered the Volunteer service in 1861, in the First Minnesota Volunteers, and served with distinction throughout the Peninsula and Maryland campaigns. At Antietam he was carried from the field severely wounded. Conspicuous gallantry won for him promotion from the rank of second lieutenant to that of lieutenant-colonel. This latter commission he declined in favor of one as additional paymaster U. S. Army. In 1866 he was appointed in the Pay Department of the regular Army. Faithful, prompt and arduous service in that corps elicited for him the special commendation of his superior officers. For faithful and meritorious services during the war he received the brevet of lieutenant-colonel.

As a proper token of respect in memory of the deceased, the officers of the Army, stationed in this city, will wear, for the period of thirty days, the badge of mourning prescribed by the General Regulations for the Army.

ROSTERS.

FIRST MILITARY DISTRICT.

THE Roster of troops serving in the First Military District, commanded by Brevet Major-General George Stoneman, for December 31st, shows the following changes since our publication of November 14, 1868, on page 203 of the present volume of the JOURNAL: Major T. A. Stanton of the headquarters staff, has become Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel T. H. Stanton, major and paymaster U. S. A.; Paymaster and Brevet Major J. M. Goodhue, Eleventh Infantry, commissary of musters, Major J. M. Goodhue, etc.; Brevet Major Robert L. Burnett captain Twenty-first Infantry, commands the post of Fredericksburg in place of Second Lieutenant Guilford D. Jennings; Brevet Major Henry E. Smith, captain Twenty-first Infantry, the post of Norfolk, in place of First Lieutenant Benjamin H. Rogers; and Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Francis M. Cooley, captain Eleventh Infantry, the post of Camp Schofield, near Lynchburg Va., in place of Brevet Major-General O. B. Willcox, colonel Twenty-ninth Infantry, who has been transferred to the command of the Sub-District of Lynchburg, which includes Camps Schofield and Marion.

BATTALION OF ENGINEERS, DEC. 22.

BREVET Brigadier-General Henry L. Abbot, major, commanding battalion and post, Willet's Point, N. Y. H. STAFF.—Edward Maguire, second lieutenant and adjutant, post adjutant, Willet's Point, N. Y. H.; Charles F. Powell, second lieutenant and battalion quartermaster, acting assistant quartermaster and acting commissary of subsistence, Willet's Point, N. Y. H.

CAPTAINS.—Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Peter C. Hains, (E) commanding company and post, Jefferson Barracks, Mo.; Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel, Samuel M. Mansfield, (D) commanding company and post, Yerba Buena, California; Brevet Major Arthur H. Buraham, (B) commanding company, Willet's Point, N. Y. H.; Alexander Mackenzie, (A) commanding company, Willet's Point, N. Y. H.; Oswald H. Ernst, (C) commanding company, Willet's Point, N. Y. H.

FIRST LIEUTENANTS.—John H. Weeden, Jr., (D) Yerba

Buena, California; James B. Quinn, (E) Jefferson Barracks, Mo.; Daniel W. Lockwood, (D) Yerba Buena, California; Clinton B. Sears, (B) Willet's Point, N. Y. H.; Thomas Turtle, (C) Willet's Point, N. Y. H.

SECOND LIEUTENANTS.—Frederick A. Mahan, (A) Willet's Point, N. Y. H.; Frederick A. Hinman, (B) Willet's Point, N. Y. H.; Albert H. Payson, (A) Willet's Point, N. Y. H.; John G. D. Knight, (C) Willet's Point, N. Y. H.; Richard L. Hoxie, (E) Jefferson Barracks, Mo.

BREVET SECOND LIEUTENANTS.—Edgar W. Bass, (A) Willet's Point, N. Y. H.; James B. Mackall, (C) Willet's Point, N. Y. H.; Richard H. Savage, (D) Yerba Buena, California; William L. Marshall, (B) Willet's Point, N. Y. H.; Joseph H. Willard, (E) Jefferson Barracks, Mo.

MEDICAL OFFICERS, DEPARTMENT OF LOUISIANA.

THE following medical officers were serving in the Department of Louisiana, December 1, 1868: Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel and Surgeon, U. S. A., John F. Randolph, medical director, New Orleans, Louisiana; C. C. Byrne, surgeon-in-chief, District of Arkansas, Little Rock, Arkansas; B. A. Clements, post surgeon at Jackson Barracks, Louisiana; Captain F. O'Donnoghue, U. S. A., medical storekeeper and acting assistant medical purveyor, New Orleans, Louisiana; W. D. Wolverton, brevet lieutenant-colonel and assistant surgeon U. S. A., post surgeon at Sedgwick Barracks, Louisiana; J. M. Brown, brevet major and assistant surgeon, U. S. A., not yet reported; E. A. Koerber, captain and assistant surgeon, U. S. A., attending surgeon at New Orleans, Louisiana; A. C. Girard, assistant surgeon, U. S. A., post surgeon at Fort Pike, Louisiana. Acting Assistant Surgeons, U. S. A., Heber Smith, Company G, Sixth U. S. Cavalry, New Orleans, Louisiana; William Deal, First Infantry and First Artillery, Sedgwick Barracks, Louisiana; J. K. Walsh, post surgeon at Grand Ecore, Louisiana; A. C. Taber, post surgeon at Lake Providence, Louisiana; Edward Alexander, post surgeon at Fort Jackson, Louisiana; W. H. Corbusier, post surgeon at Amite, Louisiana; C. C. Barbour, post hospital at Baton Rouge, Louisiana; J. T. Payne, First U. S. Infantry, at Jackson Barracks, Louisiana; J. O. Taylor, post surgeon at New Iberia, Louisiana; E. C. Drummond, post surgeon at Ship Island, Mississippi; J. J. Auerbach, post surgeon at Monroe, Louisiana; B. Gilman, post surgeon at Alexandria, Louisiana; Robert McCracken, post surgeon at Baton Rouge, Louisiana; M. A. Roach, post surgeon at Shreveport, Louisiana; Daniel McLean, First U. S. Infantry, Parish St. Bernard, Louisiana; W. A. Cantrell, post surgeon at Little Rock, Arkansas; J. E. Quidor, post surgeon at Batesville, Arkansas; D. J. Evans, post surgeon at Washington, Arkansas; J. B. Downey, post surgeon at Madison, Arkansas; R. J. Carrol, post surgeon at Fayetteville, Arkansas; A. H. Mann, post surgeon at Pine Bluff, Arkansas; Clark Caughell, post surgeon at Camden, Arkansas; J. P. Sheilbey, post surgeon at Dover, Arkansas; W. W. Bailey, private physician, temporary post surgeon at Fort Smith, Arkansas.

ARMY PERSONAL.

BREVET Brigadier-General William Hays, major Fifth U. S. Artillery has been ordered to report at Washington.

SECOND Lieutenant C. A. Johnson, Fourteenth Infantry, has been ordered to join his company at Camp Grant, A. T.

BREVET Major J. H. Mahnken, first lieutenant Eighth Cavalry, has been ordered to Churchill Barracks, Nevada.

SECOND Lieutenant Byron F. Strong, Forty-first Infantry, has been promoted to be first lieutenant, vice Funk, unassigned.

BREVET Lieutenant-Colonel John Green, major First Cavalry, has been ordered to proceed to Camp Grant, Arizona, to assume command of that post.

BREVET Colonel O. A. Mack, major Ninth Infantry, has been ordered to proceed to Camp Gaston, California, to assume command of that post, and the District of the Humboldt.

THE General Court-martial of which Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Alfred T. Smith, captain Eighth Infantry, was president, has been dissolved by order of Major-General Meade.

GENERAL Kilpatrick was presented with a silver service worth \$2,000, by the soldiers of Connecticut, before a large audience at Allyn Hall, in Hartford, on Saturday evening last.

GENERAL Gillem arrived in Washington on Saturday last, and has had one or two interviews with the President, General Grant and the Secretary of War, on matters connected with his command in Mississippi.

BREVET Major George M. Sternberg, assistant surgeon U. S. A., has been relieved from duty as chief medical officer of the troops serving in the field south of the Arkansas, and is assigned to duty at the depot.

GENERAL Lorenzo Thomas has returned to New Orleans from Texas, where he has been for a short time inspecting the national cemeteries in that State. General Thomas will shortly return to Washington to report.

ADVISES from Alaska state that a portion of the garrison buildings at the mouth of the Stickeen River had been destroyed by fire. Captain Kenney, of the United States Army, committed suicide by shooting himself through the heart.

BREVET Brigadier-General Burbank has been relieved from duty as Assistant Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau for the State of Kentucky, and Brevet Colonel B. P. Runkle, major Forty-fifth Infantry, (Veteran Reserves) has been ordered to that duty.

FIRST Lieutenant Stephen H. Carey, has been cashiered on the charges of disobedience of orders, neglect of duty, absence without leave, embezzlement of public funds, and breach of arrest. He has been sentenced to

be cashiered and imprisoned in the penitentiary at Columbus, Ohio, for the period of one year, and for such further period as shall elapse until he shall refund to the United States the sum of six hundred and eighteen dollars and sixteen cents, the amount of his embezzlement.

ACTING Assistant Surgeon L. L. Dorr, U. S. Army, has been ordered to Camp Wallen, A. T., to relieve Acting Assistant Surgeon John P. Sharkey, U. S. Army. Surgeon Sharkey is ordered to San Francisco for the annulment of his contract.

CAPTAIN Edward Byrne, Tenth U. S. Cavalry, has been ordered to proceed to Fort Harker, Kansas, and report to the commanding officer District of the Upper Arkansas, for assignment to duty with the detachment of Cavalry recruits at that post.

GENERAL Sickles, who was recently elected a member of the Republican General Committee (Conservative) for New York, states that he declines the appointment, on the ground that he "cannot, without prejudice to other duties, take part in local politics."

LEAVE of absence for twenty days, with permission to go beyond the limits of his command, and with a recommendation to the Adjutant-General of the Army, for an extension of sixty days, has been granted Brevet Captain Ira W. Trask, first lieutenant Ninth Cavalry.

THE New York Mail says: "Washington society is just now agitated by the reports of an approaching 'marriage in high life,' to which the parties announced are the gallant and accomplished General Comstock, of General Grant's staff, and Miss Betty, the eldest daughter of Montgomery Blair.

CAPTAIN A. E. Hooker, Ninth U. S. Cavalry, has been assigned to duty as acting assistant quartermaster and assistant commissary of subsistence at Indianola, Texas, relieving Second Lieutenant J. W. Tanfield, Seventeenth U. S. Infantry. Lieutenant Tanfield is ordered to join his company at Wharton, Texas.

ASSISTANT Surgeon A. C. Girard, U. S. A., has been relieved from duty at Fort Pike, Louisiana, and ordered to Baton Rouge, Louisiana, to relieve acting assistant surgeon Robert McCracken, U. S. A., who will proceed to Fort Pike, Louisiana, for assignment to duty, in place of Assistant Surgeon Girard, relieved.

SECOND Lieutenant J. W. Tanfield, Seventeenth Infantry, has been relieved by Captain A. E. Hooker, Ninth Cavalry, from the duties of acting assistant quartermaster and acting commissary of subsistence, Post of Indianola, Texas, and ordered to report in person to Headquarters Fifth Military District, for instructions.

THE following officers were registered at the Headquarters Department of Louisiana, for the week ending January 2, 1869: John B. Rodman, second lieutenant Twentieth Infantry; James Gillette, captain Fifteenth Infantry, brevet major; P. F. Harvey, assistant surgeon U. S. A.; Robert B. Wade, captain Seventeenth Infantry.

BREVET Major M. R. Marston, captain First Infantry, has been ordered to proceed to Grand Ecore, Louisiana, and make a thorough investigation and report the facts connected with the killing of William Kimball, by Brevet Brigadier-General N. B. McLaughlen, captain Fourth Cavalry. We publish elsewhere the facts concerning this affair.

MAJOR-GENERAL William F. Barry, by direction of the War Department, presented at Norfolk, January 13th, to Captain Robert Creighton, commanding the royal mail steamship *Venezuelan*, the medal awarded him by Congress for gallantly rescuing troops from the wrecked steamer *San Francisco*, in the bark *Three Bells*, some years ago.

FIRST Lieutenant J. F. Trout, Ninth U. S. Infantry, has been court-martialed and dismissed the service, with the approval of General Grant, for "conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman," in endeavoring to persuade his commanding officer to join him in a scheme for defrauding the Government, in the matter of issuing forage.

THE fourth annual meeting of the New Hampshire Veteran Union was held in Concord on the 8th. There was a large attendance of officers of the veteran regiments of the State. The following officers were elected: Major-General S. G. Griffin, president; Brigadier-General John Bedell, vice-president; Lieutenant-Colonel Josiah Stevens, Jr., secretary; Major Henry McFarland, treasurer. The orator was Major-General Kilpatrick.

A GENERAL Court-martial, consisting of the following officers was appointed to meet at Fort Wallace, Kansas, January 6th: Brevet Colonel H. C. Bankhead, captain Fifth U. S. Infantry; Brevet Lieutenant Colonel L. H. Carpenter, captain Tenth U. S. Cavalry; Captain S. B. Lauffer, assistant quartermaster U. S. A.; Assistant Surgeon T. H. Turner, U. S. Army; First Lieutenant Hugh Johnson, Fifth U. S. Infantry; First Lieutenant P. G. Wood, Fifth U. S. Infantry; First Lieutenant Charles Banzhaf, Tenth U. S. Cavalry. Judge-Advocate, Captain Edmund Butler, Fifth U. S. Infantry.

BREVET Brigadier-General Lewis C. Hunt, lieutenant-colonel Twentieth Infantry; Brevet Major Leslie Smith, captain First Infantry; First Lieutenant John Hamilton, First Infantry; First Lieutenant John L. Worden, First Infantry; Second Lieutenant George W. Roby, First Infantry; Second Lieutenant J. Sumner Rogers, First Infantry; Second Lieutenant Frank W. Russell, Sixth Cavalry, have been detailed as members of a General Court-martial to meet at Jackson Barracks, La., Jan. 9th. First Lieutenant William E. Dougherty, First Infantry, judge-advocate.

GENERAL Grant made one speech at Chicago, viz.: "Gentlemen of the Army of the Tennessee, my first associations, in the beginning of the rebellion through which we have passed, were with you, and I am heartily glad to be with you again to-day, and with the other officers who served with you in the field. I thank you for your kind demonstrations, and the country thanks you for your noble services. I can remain with you but a very short time to-day. You know, perhaps, that I am

subject to periodical neuralgic headaches, and the fact that I have been suffering from one of these attacks for the past few days, will prevent me, even were I inclined to do so, from saying more on this occasion than to again thank you for this kind reception."

Miss Annette Howe, a niece of the Hon. Henry Wilson, and Lieutenant Alexander T. Smith, son of the late Thomas P. Smith, of Medford, Mass., were married at the residence of the Senator, at Natick, on Christmas day. Lieutenant Smith was one of the earliest volunteers during the late war, and made the grand march to the sea with General Sherman. The bridal presents were costly and elegant, and conspicuous among them was an autograph letter from General Grant, regretting his inability to be present, and wishing the young couple many years of happiness in their married life.

BREVET Brigadier-General E. G. Marshall, colonel U. S. A., (retired); Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel John D. Wilkins, major Thirty-third Infantry; Captain Joseph L. Tidball, U. S. A., (retired); Captain Alexander Murry, U. S. A., (retired); Captain George K. Sanderson, Thirty-third Infantry; Brevet Captain Joseph G. Waters, first lieutenant Thirty-third Infantry; and Second Lieutenant John McE. Hyde, Thirty-third Infantry, have been detailed on a General Court-martial appointed to assemble at the post of Mobile, Alabama, the 12th instant. Captain Samuel R. Honey, Thirty-third Infantry, is appointed judge-advocate of the court.

THE following officers have been detailed for a General Court martial appointed to meet at Fort Harker, Kansas, Jan. 12th: Brevet Lieut.-Col. E. H. Leib, captain Fifth U. S. Cavalry; Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel A. K. Long, captain and commissary of subsistence; Brevet Major John N. Craig, captain Thirty-eighth U. S. Infantry; Captain Edward Byrne, Tenth U. S. Cavalry; First Lieutenant J. M. Thompson, Thirty-eighth U. S. Infantry; First Lieutenant J. A. Bodamer, Tenth U. S. Cavalry; Second Lieutenant W. F. Gardner, Thirty-eighth U. S. Infantry. Judge-advocate, Brevet Major E. A. Belger, first lieutenant Third U. S. Infantry.

FIRST Lieutenant John Murphy, regimental quartermaster, Fourth U. S. Cavalry, has been court-martialed and found guilty on the charges of "positive and wilful disobedience of orders," and of "conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman," and sentenced to be cashiered. So much of the findings as sustain the charge of "conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman" has been disapproved by General Grant, and the sentence commuted "to loss of rank, so that hereafter the name of First Lieutenant John Murphy, Fourth U. S. Cavalry, shall be borne on the Official Army Register on the list of first lieutenants of cavalry next below that of First Lieutenant William C. Bayliss, Fourth U. S. Cavalry."

GENERAL Grant gave a private dinner on the 8th inst., to a small private party. Sixteen persons were present, including General and Mrs. Grant, Moses Grinnell, R. M. Blatchford, Henry D. Cooke and lady, Congressman Clarke and lady, Columbus Delano and lady, and General Wickham, ex-Confederate general. Dinner over, the gentlemen retired to the library to smoke and talk. The conversation soon turned, as the correspondents of the daily papers tell us, upon military matters, suggested by a question of General Wickham to General Grant, as to whether the latter took part in the battle of Palo Alto, in Mexico. Grant responded that it was his lot to be there, as in all the other battles of the campaign. Wickham related his share in the Palo Alto engagement, and then both engaged in comparing notes about Scott's successful campaign, fighting each battle over again to the extreme delight of the small audience around them. General Wickham having commanded an important division in Lee's army, the conversation assumed a deeply interesting character, especially as General Grant entered with more than his accustomed vigor of description into the details of his great movement against Richmond. "When the story reached Appomattox Court House, both Generals shook hands and expressed a cordial hope that a time would soon arrive when the soldiers of either army would meet in the same spirit of harmonious and fraternal feeling."

MAJOR-GENERAL John A. Rawlins has returned to Washington from Connecticut, in improved health. A correspondent of the *World* has been drawing upon his imagination for an account of a conversation with General Grant in which the General entered into a critical analysis of the character of various public men, and among them General Rawlins, of whom General Grant is reported to have spoken as follows: "I feel the same delicacy in talking of Rawlins that I would if he were my own brother. There is no man with whom I was ever associated to whom I feel so much indebted for my success as to him. He is a man of the very first order of intellect. The country does not know its obligations to him. His sterling integrity, his unselfish patriotism, his untiring energy, his wonderful adaptability to circumstances, his keen judgment of men, his facility of acquiring the art of war, are so well known to the Army that you have only to ask any of my subordinate officers to know what a debt of gratitude the country owes him. He came to me in the full vigor of robust health. He has been an invalid ever since the Corinth campaign. His health is improving, and I trust he may have the fullest opportunity for the development of his rare powers. He is equal to the duties of any position within the gift of a President. I should cheerfully offer him a place in my Cabinet, but Rawlins is poor, very poor. At the same time, without any personal extravagance, he is a man of liberal views. It is impossible for a Cabinet officer to live in a style becoming his position at the present salary. For this reason, if for no other, I do not think Rawlins would accept a Cabinet appointment. There is no man better fitted for it, or who would be more acceptable to me." This is true enough, and is, no doubt, a very correct statement of what General Grant would say of Rawlins, but we are sure that General Rawlins on his part will admit that there is one man to whom the President elect is more indebted for his success than to him, and that is U. S. Grant.

THE NAVY.

The Editor would be pleased to receive for this Department of the JOURNAL all facts of interest to the Navy, especially such as relate to the movements of officers or vessels.

VARIOUS NAVAL MATTERS.

THE United States steamer *Kenosha*, now fitting out at the Navy-yard, New York, will probably sail for the Mediterranean in about a week.

THE President has sent to the Senate for confirmation the names of William G. Farewell, of Michigan, and F. K. Hartzell, of Pennsylvania, to be assistant surgeons in the Navy.

THE revenue cutter *Lincoln* returned to San Francisco, January 12th, from an unsuccessful search for the shoal reported eighty miles south-west of the south-east Farallon light.

THE Senate Naval Committee made a report to the Senate recommending that the application of Commodore R. W. Meade, asking to be restored to active service, be indefinitely postponed.

THE *Tuscarora* and *Dacota* were reported at Callao, Peru, December 23d, and the *Penobscot* at Aspinwall, January 5th, having arrived there on the 1st. The *Mauvee* and *Monocacy* were at Yokohama, December 15th.

THE horses owned by R. D. Bogert, the absconding paymaster's clerk of the United States receiving ship *Vermont*, were appraised at the valuation of \$2,500, and were sold at public auction by the United States Marshal on the 13th instant. The proceeds will be devoted toward the reimbursement of the Government losses.

THE funeral of the father of King Kamehameha, of the Sandwich Islands, on the 23d December, was very imposing. It was twenty minutes in passing a given point. The marines and sailors of the steamer *Ossipee* were in the procession. Guns were fired from the Punch Bowl Battery during the forenoon, and the *Ossipee* fired a salute of twenty-one guns. Business was suspended during the day.

The report of Captain White, commanding the United States steamer *Wyandotte*, who has been cruising in the Alaskan waters, has been transmitted to the Senate by the Secretary of the Treasury, and there are many interesting facts in it which are worth perusal. The captain gives a glowing description of the fisheries, and furnishes interesting statistics in regard to the seal and fur trade, which prove that the new Territory will become really valuable to the country.

THE United States steamer *Pouchatan*, bearing the pennant of Rear-Admiral Turner, together with the *Nyack* and *Kearsage*, left Lima for Chile and the southern ports of Peru, on December the 3d. If the yellow fever does not appear there in force, the squadron will probably return to Callao in February. On the 4th instant, the *Dacota* and *Tuscarora* arrived from the south and were still lying in port.

THE U. S. steamer *Gettysburg* was reported at Havana on the 12th, having just returned from Neuvas, bringing report that the Cuban rebels were closely pressing the siege of the town. The garrison had turned one of the churches into a fortress, and with the assistance of the Spanish vessels of war in the harbor were holding out until reinforcements could reach them. A detachment of troops sent out by land to their relief was defeated by the insurgents. The latter have no artillery, but are well supplied with Spencer's rifles, which they use with effect.

A DISPATCH received at the Navy Department from Rear-Admiral Hoff, commanding the North Atlantic squadron, dated flagship *Contocook*, Havana, January 1st, says that the vessel is in excellent condition. It is his desire to visit other points of the command, in the flagship, but the Consul-General reports that the excitement continues on shore. The *Gettysburg* was employed in conveying the cable steamers between Key West and Havana. The *Penobscot* was cruising on the coast of Colombia and Venezuela. The *Yantic* was stationed at Aspinwall during the early part of December. She conveyed Hon. Caleb Cushing to Carthagena. The *Nipsic* was cruising in Haytien waters.

THE Board of Underwriters and Chamber of Commerce, of San Francisco, lately adopted a memorial to the Light-house Board at Washington, asking that immediate action be taken toward locating light-houses and signals on New Year, Reges, Arenas and Pigeon Points. The memorial shows that within the radius which would be illuminated by the erection of light-houses at either Pigeon Point or Point New Year, nine vessels have been wrecked and \$1,250,000 worth of property destroyed. Fifty-one lives are known to have been lost during the same period. Twelve vessels have gone ashore on Point Arenas, and Reges, involving a loss of over \$825,000.

A LETTER from Lima, dated December 14th, says that the government is encouraging a railway projected between Lima and one of the cities at the Peruvian headwaters of the Amazon. Admiral Tucker, it says, has reached, in steamers, a point only fifty leagues distant from Lima, through rivers which directly connect with the Amazon, and this road will place Lima in immediate connection with that point. The advantages to be derived from such an undertaking are clearly apparent, and, fortunately for the country, there appears to be every reason to believe that the road will be soon commenced, and the savages of the forests of the Amazon will be startled from their ordinary stolidity by the shriek of the locomotive.

THE Secretary of the Navy has sent a communication to the House of Representatives stating that he has received the deed and accompanying papers conveying to the United States, for naval purposes, the property known as League Island. The Attorney-General has pronounced

the title valid, and the land and appurtenances have been accepted by the Government. The Secretary recommends that with a view of securing permanent works at that station, a thoroughly competent board be appointed to make a preliminary survey of the premises, and that they submit a plan of improvement. It is essential, he says, that a national establishment of the importance of the proposed Navy-yard at League Island, with its docks, work shops, manufactories, foundries, etc., should be commenced and carried forward in an intelligent and systematic manner, with a comprehensive and appreciative view of the whole subject, not only for the present but for the future. He recommends the appropriation of \$10,000 to defray the necessary expenses of the proposed preliminary survey.

COMMANDER Richard Lyman Law died in Philadelphia on Monday last the 11th inst. Commander Law was born in Indiana, and appointed from that State Feb. 17, 1841. He was in the service twenty-eight years, within one month, nearly seventeen years of which were passed at sea, his last cruise having been made in command of the *Suwanee* (third-rate). He was, at various times, attached to each of the American Squadrons. For two years and a half he was employed upon coast survey service. He was on shore duty for five years, and two years and eight months was unemployed. At the commencement of the war of the rebellion he was attached as lieutenant to the steam sloop *Hartford*, and was subsequently ordered to the command of the side wheel steamer *Clifton*, eight guns, and of the steam division of the Porter mortar flotilla, and with which he participated in the capture of New Orleans and Galveston. He was subsequently retired and placed in command of the Receiving Ship *New Hampshire*. In 1866 he was restored to the active list, and in September of that year he received the commission of Commander and was subsequently placed in command of the *Suwanee*, with which he was wrecked in Shadwell Pass, Vancouver's Island, Jan. 9, 1868, while on a cruise between Alaska and San Francisco.

A CORRESPONDENT of the New York Times, writing with reference to the bill of Senator Edmunds, says very truly: "I would further add, that the Secretary of the Navy, unlike other officers of the Cabinet, is not only the counsellor of the President in affairs of statesmanship and policy, and the administration of vast and varied material requiring professional experience and knowledge, but he is the head of a large isolated and peculiar family, with many delicate and complicated relations in itself, and which it is not possible for any one to comprehend or manage without a long, familiar and practical acquaintance with those relations. Although, to some extent, this view applies to the Army, yet the parallel between the two services is not close—and the peculiar knowledge required not so imperative. The army is at home, its members are blended with the influences of civil life; their domestic and social relations are more general; by constant contact with interests and pursuits outside of their profession there are guarantees against wrong and injustice, and opportunities for redressing them which the Navy does not possess. This last is an institution or military state existing in confined and limited communities all over the world. Remote from home protections and influences, its members are of necessity more permanently bound to the service, and any mistakes of incapacity or ignorance may be productive of great and irreparable mischief."

A DISPATCH from New Orleans dated January 4th, says that after a stormy council, the Peruvian Minister, the Commodore and other officers, resolved to make a fresh detail of the officers of the Peruvian fleet anchored off South-west Pass. As a consequence the monitor *Manco Copac* is henceforth to be commanded entirely by Peruvian officers, with the exception of one ensign, Mr. McKay, an American. The monitor *Atahualpa*, on the other hand, will, with the exception of Captain Moore as commander, have none but American officers on board. This change has given considerable dissatisfaction to the engineers, who are all Americans, and who are very much indisposed to trust their lives to foreign officers who know absolutely nothing of the management of these monitors. Under these circumstances it is very much feared that there will be further trouble between the officers and men. During the storm last Tuesday night thirteen men deserted, taking a boat with them from each monitor. One of the boats was recovered on Wednesday, but, so far, nothing has been heard of the men. Great precautions have been taken to prevent further desertions. The fleet will probably get off last Wednesday for Pensacola. Both the monitors and the transport *Maranon* (late *Havana*) are lying off Pilot Town. The other convoy, the *Monterey*, has not yet changed her flag. When she does it is probable that there will be difficulty with her crew, as was the case with that of the *Maranon*. On the whole, the Peruvian Minister has had up hill work with these vessels, and has been badly victimized by contractors, mechanics, crew, and almost everybody with whom he has had business. What the wind-up of the present muddle will be can scarcely be told. Whether the monitors will ever reach Peru depends entirely upon circumstances. They have left the mouth of the Mississippi with their consorts the *Havana* and *Monterey*, and will touch at Pensacola.

FOREIGN NAVAL MATTERS.

AN officer of the British navy states that, from eleven years' observation—six years in the Arctic regions, and five years in the north of Scotland—he has ascertained that tremendous gales follow from twelve to twenty-four hours after the appearance of the aurora borealis.

NANKIN advices of November 12, 1868, state the British war vessels *Rinaldo*, *Slaney* and *Jearus* reached Nankin on Sunday afternoon, and on Monday morning Mr. Medhurst, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, with a squad of marines, called on Tsenkwo-fan and demanded full reparation for the insults offered to the missionaries at Yang-chow. Tsen proposing to delay the discussion of the question, he was informed that if

he did not comply by five o'clock P. M., that day, the Chinese gunboat *Tienki*, then anchored off Nankin, would be seized. Alarmed at this he complied with all the demands. The *Rinaldo*, with Lord Scott, will go to Formosa to adjust the missionary question there. Captain Dunlap, of the *Dove*, has been busy surveying the Grand Canal preparatory to the return of the fleet.

A STEAM launch has been tried in England, the machinery of which makes scarcely any perceptible noise, when driven at its highest speed, with no priming in the funnel, and with a perfectly equal draught in the furnace. The official report of the trials contains a recommendation that all steam pinnaces, launches, or cutters in future supplied to the British Navy should be fitted on the same noiseless principle.

TABLES compiled by Mr. Jeula, the honorable Secretary of the Statistical Committee of Lloyd's, show that the wrecks and casualties on the coasts of the United Kingdom during the past year exceeded by about three per cent. the average of the past eight years. This increase was consequent partly on the weather and partly on defects in ships or equipments. In the accidents from carelessness and miscellaneous causes there was a diminution.

ONE of the last of Nelson's brave companions at the battle of St. Vincent, has just died at Fremington, near Barnstaple, at the great age of 97. Thomas Pile was one of the crew who boarded the *San Josef*, and assisted the immortal hero into the chains of that vessel, Nelson exclaiming "give me your hand, Pile; I'm a good soldier but a poor sailor." It may be mentioned that, although a sailor from his boyhood, he never indulged in a pipe of tobacco.

THE *Army and Navy Gazette* warns the Greeks that if they mean fighting, they will find Hobart Pasha, the Turkish admiral, quite the man for them. His conduct in recent matters has been very judicious. The blockade of the port of Syra, into which the Greek privateer, as she may be called, fled after firing on him, was a justifiable measure on Pasha Hobart's part, as it is certainly a moderate exercise of his power and rights. The force under him is large enough to dispose of the whole naval force of the Greek kingdom.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Herald* writes that the mystery in regard to a coolie vessel that had arrived at Hakodadi and was supposed to be the Italian bark *Providencia*, has at last been cleared up. It turns out that the vessel is the *Clyalto*, which sailed from Callao for another part of the South American coast. When two days out the coolies took possession, made the crew fast to an anchor and consigned them to the depths below, retaining the captain, who promised to navigate the ship to China. But he evidently changed his mind, as he took them to some place north of Hakodadi, probably the Fox Islands, and there, upon pretence of getting food on shore, he left with his servant, but returned no more. The coolies then took the vessel to Hakodadi. They refused to give any satisfactory account until the United States sloop-of-war *Iroquois* was sent thither, when Captain English, probably by using threats of employing man-of-war appliances, wrung the truth out of them. The vessel and coolies have been detained at Hakodadi until the arrival of the Peruvian Consul from Macao.

ADMIRAL Grey writes to the *London Times* advocating the abandonment of Gibraltar if the Spaniards will give Ceuta in exchange. The leading journal, in an article on the letter, rather approves of the idea, but suggests that there is a great deal to be said on both sides. Ceuta is one of the Pillars of Hercules, Gibraltar being the other. It is on the coast of Morocco, seventeen miles S. S. E. of Gibraltar, and has belonged to Spain since 1640. It is situated at the extremity of the Peninsula and has many points of resemblance to Gibraltar, and could be fortified so as to make it all but impregnable. The military journal opposes the project on the ground that Gibraltar which they have, is far better than Ceuta which they have not. It declares that it is blessed with bad air and bad water, that it is a bad harbor—in fact, without a breakwater, it is no harbor at all—it is on the wrong side of the coast for us to get at—it would require millions of money to fortify it properly. But can't they make the Spaniards pay for the fortifications of Gibraltar and build new ones with the money, with the advantages of modern experience?

ACCORDING to the Ninth Annual Report of the Massachusetts Nautical School, a reformatory institution, the number of boys in the School Ship, Oct. 1, 1867, was 287; committed during the year 205; whole number in the School 505. Boys shipped in the revenue service, 5; in the merchant and whaling service, 93; discharged on probation, 117; died during the year, 2; transferred to the State Almshouse, 5; deserted during the year, 2; remaining in the school, October 1, 1868, 281. In no former year has the health of the boys connected with this institution been so uniformly good, as during the year just closed. Among the seventeen hundred and fourteen boys connected with this institution during the period of its existence, no case of typhoid fever or dysentery has ever occurred. Four weeks were spent in cruising with the two ships in company, and the pride the boys took in excelling the other ship in getting under way, making, taking in, and furling sail, was truly amusing. The treasurer reports the total receipts from all sources to be \$60,442 96, and the expenditures amount to that sum less \$7,133 38, received from towns for the support of boys and deposited with the State Treasurer, and \$912 28, cash on hand, October 1, 1868.

THE *Army and Navy Gazette* in reviewing the operations of the retiring Board of Admiralty in England, states that the first thing that strikes them is the fact that they vigorously set about the building of a large number of ships. In Pembroke Dockyard, where the iron-clad twin-screw frigate *Penelope* has been completed, and the high-flying unarmored but iron-built frigate *Inconstant* is rapidly approaching completion, another large iron-clad, the *Iron Duke*, has been ordered; and the building slips of Woolwich, Sheerness, Portsmouth,

and Devonport, resound with the din of building operations. In private establishments, also, many new ships have been ordered by the late Board, among which may be named the *Invincible* and *Audacious* (sister ships to the *Iron Duke*), and the ram *Hotspur*, which Messrs. Napier are building on the Clyde; two fast iron corvettes, the *Voltage* and *Active*, which the Thames Company are building; the *Vanguard*, a sister ship to the *Iron Duke*, building by Messrs. Laird; and two very similar frigates, but with single screws and coppered bottoms—the *Swiftsure* and *Triumph*, building by Messrs. Palmer, of Jarrow. The turret-ship *Captain* is approaching completion, under Captain Coles's guidance, at the works of Messrs. Laird, of Birkenhead. The next fact that stands prominently forward is the dislike of the late Administration for large ships, or perhaps it would be more fair to say their liking for small vessels. In their first year they commenced the building of nearly thirty sloops and gunboats under 1,000 tons each, and although the total number of vessels building a year ago amounted to nearly fifty, only four of them reached 4,000 tons in burden, and all four were commenced by the late Government.

THE captain of the Greek blockade runner *Enosis* gives the following particulars of her engagement with two Turkish ships while running into the port of Syra: As he approached Syra he was pursued by a frigate bearing the flag of an Ottoman admiral, attended by the corvette *Izzedin*, and was fired at with heavy guns, revolvers and muskets. They returned the fire of the Turks with great effect. One shot from their well-pointed guns disabled the corvette by striking a paddle-wheel and another raked the flag-ship from stem to stern. Shortly after the *Enosis* was anchored in the recess of the port the Ottoman frigate cast anchor at the mouth. The frigate bore the flag of Hon. Captain Hobart, R. N., who has taken service with the Turks as Colonel Petropoulakes has taken service with the Cretan committee. Captain Hobart has received the rank of vice-admiral and has assumed command of the Ottoman squadron blockading the insurgents in Crete. Hobart Pasha sent a communication to the nomarch (prefect) of Syra, which states the facts of the engagement somewhat differently from the report of the captain of the *Enosis*. He ordered the *Izzedin* to fire a gun without shot as an order to the *Enosis* to bring to, but at the first blank fire of the *Izzedin* the *Enosis* replied with a shotted gun. The ball struck the admiral's ship and shattered two boats. The *Izzedin* then fired shotted guns and pursued the *Enosis* to within four miles of the port. The flag-ship followed, anchored, and the admiral sent a letter to the nomarch demanding that the *Enosis* should be sequestered as a pirate and her process made, and that the nomarch should act energetically and without delay. The nomarch and the consuls immediately sent off an express steamer to Athens for instructions, and in the meantime the Ottoman vice-admiral remained anchored in the mouth of the port, to prevent the armed blockade-runners, *Enosis* and *Crete*, from escaping to sea. This is the origin of the difficulty between Greece and Turkey which the diplomats are now engaged in settling.

NAVY GAZETTE.

CORRECTION.

In the last number of the JOURNAL the following order appeared: DECEMBER 27.—Paymaster G. De F. Barton, to the *Cyane*. It should have read—
“The orders of Paymaster G. De F. Barton to the *Cyane* have been revoked, and he is placed on waiting orders.”

REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

ORDERED.

JANUARY 2.—Carpenter Charles Boardman, to duty on board the receiving ship *Ohio*.
Carpenter J. G. Myers, to duty on board the *Michigan*.
JANUARY 4.—Surgeon Samuel Jackson, to duty at the Naval Hospital, Philadelphia, Pa.
JANUARY 6.—Paymaster J. H. Watmough, to duty as inspector of the New York Navy-yard.
Gunner Peter Barrett, to duty at the Pensacola Navy-yard.
JANUARY 9.—Surgeon J. S. Dungan, to duty on board the *Cyane*.
Surgeon F. E. Fetter, to duty connected with iron-clads, at New Orleans, La.

DETACHED.

JANUARY 2.—Commander J. M. Bradford, from command of the *Reusa*, and placed on waiting orders.
Commander E. Simpson, from command of the *Mohongo*, and ordered to duty in charge of the Hydrographic office at Washington, D. C.
Paymaster F. H. Swan, from duty on board the *Saranac*, and ordered to settle his accounts.
JANUARY 5.—Lieutenant-Commander Frank Wilder, from duty on board the receiving ship *Ohio*, and ordered to the *Franklin*.
JANUARY 6.—Paymaster C. W. Hassler, from inspection duty at the New York Navy-yard, and ordered to settle his accounts.
JANUARY 8.—Assistant Surgeon M. L. Ruth, from duty at the Washington Navy-yard, and ordered to the Naval Hospital, at Pensacola, Fla.

VOLUNTEER NAVAL SERVICE.

DETACHED.

JANUARY 8.—Acting Passed Assistant Surgeon J. W. Sherfy, from duty connected with iron-clads, at New Orleans, La., and ordered to return North.
Acting Passed Assistant Surgeon D. C. Burleigh, from duty at the Naval Hospital at Pensacola, Fla., and ordered to return North.

GRANTED LEAVE FOR DISCHARGE.

JANUARY 4.—Acting Third Assistant Engineers Leopold Callaway, and J. P. Mickley.

LIST OF DEATHS

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery for the week ending January 9, 1869:
Joseph Birkett, seaman, October 12th, U. S. steamer *Idaho*, at Nagasaki, Japan.
Charles Harris, ordinary seaman, November 4th, hospital, Valparaiso, Chili.
James Hanley, coal-heaver, November 16th, City Hospital, Callao, Peru.
Samuel Brown (negro), landsman, November 22d, U. S. steamer *Poulaton*.

REVENUE MARINE SERVICE.

ORDERED.

JANUARY, 1869.—First Lieutenant Morton L. Phillips detached from revenue steamer *Guthrie* at Baltimore, granted one month's leave of absence, then to take charge of the revenue steamer *E. A. Storrs*, at Newbern, N. C.

First Lieutenant George M. Hunter, to the steamer *Guthrie*, at Baltimore, relieving Lieutenant Phillips.
Chief Engineer F. W. H. Whitaker, to the *Storms*, at Newbern, N. C.

Third Lieutenant Edward W. Creecy, to the *McCulloch*, at New York.
Second Lieutenant James S. Madagau, to the *Dobbin*, at Castine, Maine.
Third Lieutenant Horatio D. Smith, to the *Storms*, at Newbern, N. C.

WAITING ORDERS.

The revenue cutter *Morris*, recently on the Mobile station, has been sold out of the service, and the following officers placed on waiting orders, viz: Captain David Evans, First Lieutenant Howard L. Briggs, Third Lieutenant W. B. Barnes.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

JANUARY 5.—Captain George R. Spicer, of revenue steamer *Dix*, extension of twenty days.
JANUARY 6.—Third Lieutenant Samuel A. Brooks, of steamer *Seward*, ten days.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The revenue steamer *E. A. Storrs* (formerly the *Naugatuck*, presented to the Government by Mr. Stevens) has been completely repaired, and now assigned to the Newbern, N. C., station. The following are her officers, viz: Lieutenant-Commanding, Morton L. Phillips; First Lieutenant, Charles B. Barlowe; Third Lieutenant, Horatio D. Smith; Chief Engineer, F. W. H. Whitaker; First Assistant Engineer, Joseph White; Second Assistant Engineer, John W. Clarke.

THE BALL AT THE NAVAL ACADEMY.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

ANNAPOLIS, January 9, 1868.

I met the Washington train at Newark. In the smoking car several very polite young men asked me to play “euchre,” but as I think that above all it looks well for a “special” to be wily, I politely declined. Not so a young lawyer who was seated near me, for he joined them and had some most astonishing good poker hands dealt him; indeed, and on one of four Kings he lost fifty dollars, and well he might, for a benevolent-looking man who may pass for a clergyman, held the four aces, and took the spoils. I was not so sorry to see the lawyer lose his money, for it is not positive but that this or equal amounts in his hands, judiciously distributed among the law-givers, might not have overbalanced the scales of justice.

At Philadelphia I joined a gentleman and his friend, both of whom told some good stories. I thought that as a special correspondent I should exhibit my wit, which I undertook to do, but my funny story was received with the utmost gravity, and not only that, for though my narrative was very proper, yet they asked me not to speak so loud for fear the ladies might hear me. I presume they meant this for a joke but it quite depressed my spirits, for I think if there is anything in which a special should excel it is in story-telling, and I felt that I had failed. We met a great crowd of people at Annapolis Junction, on their way to attend the ball. I think of all the railroads in the United States, the one to Annapolis is the most uncomfortable. The depot in that place is poor, and on our arrival we found it filled with happy-looking middies awaiting their friends. The hotel of course was jammed. With the usual generosity of man I thought I would overreach my fellows, but it had no other result than to make me one of four in a room containing that number of beds. Apart from the embarrassment of being a stranger and the fourth among three very intimate friends, the hotel at Annapolis is a dismal place and fairly reeks with foul odors, which have a most depressing effect. Every man has a natural sense of curiosity, and if, as a stranger, he is thrown with three persons, graduates of the same school or university and members of the same class, he is driven to desperation by such perfectly natural remarks as this: “Tom, did you ever hear that about Hawkeye's game leg?” Now there is something in the words “game leg” which is quite piquant, and you would give the world to solve the mystery; but the conventionalities of life close your mouth, whereas the three intimates have a great laugh over this mere hint of a reminiscence.

The ball was held in the gymnasium, a circular building, admirably adapted for the purpose, although I think a room of this shape injures the *coup d'œil*. A canvas passage led to the cloak room, from thence you mounted a flight of steps to the theatre of action. The roof was lined with blue and studded with silver stars; the sides were ornamented with cutlasses and muskets profusely distributed amid a vast quantity of bunting and evergreens. Such mottoes as these were liberally displayed around the walls: “The Army and Navy our best security;” “Grant U. S. peace;” “U. S. N. and A., 1869;” “Class of 1869 knows no reverse;” “United we stand, divided we fall;” “Don't give up the ship;” and in the dressing rooms and in the supper rooms foreign mottoes, such as “*Nada que beber, but quelquechose à manger*.” This amusing inscription extended all around the octagonal walls of the old fort, immediately above the supper table. In the ladies' dressing-rooms above one mirror, was the Spanish axiom, “*Dios y las Senoras*,” and above another, “*Sans vous rien*.” The old laboratory was turned into a gentlemen's dressing-room, a few mirrors being provided for the occasion.

The ball-room presented the appearance of a gigantic bouquet, the ladies, with their many-colored dresses, producing the effect of flowers; with the uniform coats of the officers and cadets and of the green foliage, introduced to heighten the effect. Of course, a bald-headed man, in civilian dress, was treated with the indifference and contempt that such an abject condition of life should subject him to on such an occasion. I assumed, at once, my position in the lower order of creation in which my clothing and unfortunate loss of hair had placed me, and I became, with little effort, an observing and ruminating animal.

The ball was given under the auspices of the First Class, of which Messrs. Birney, Briggs, Phelps, Berwind, Buckingham, and Harber were the committee of management. If the arrangements were of their own conception, they are certainly entitled to every credit, for

I never saw, on a similar occasion, so little confusion and crowding or a better supper. The relatives and friends of the cadets were present from every section, and we found representatives among the ladies of almost every style of American beauty. The men looked well, particularly the cadets, who not only danced well, but who, even to the youngest, possess an ease and grace of manner and *savoir faire*, that cannot but strike a stranger, the more remarkably from the fact that it is a rule with hardly an exception. The shape of the room spoiled, in a measure, the effect of the music, but what there was of it was well done.

It is a foolish thing ever to attempt to criticise a ball. It is an ephemeral thing which like ourselves usually ends in dust. I will say this for the middies, however, that they are capable of dancing, probably forever, for they treat a ball as they would a cruise; they divide themselves into starboard and port watches, and with great cunning relieve one another at regular intervals. No body of girls in the world can stand strategy of this kind, unless, indeed, they place themselves under the command of some wise vice-admiral who has fought himself into a position to tame the most mutinous. When the “German” commenced, your correspondent retired to catch a few winks of sleep, from which I was awakened by what seemed to me in my sleep to be shells bursting with great accuracy, but which I found to be my three young lieutenants hammering at the door for admittance. It was then six o'clock, and they said the starboard watch had just been called and was dancing with renewed vigor.

THE NAVIES OF GREECE AND TURKEY.

THE *Pall Mall Gazette* gives an account of the present condition of the navies of Greece and Turkey. Admiral Hobart, who was formerly a captain in the English navy, is now the principal naval officer in the Turkish service. During the present reign great efforts have been made to improve the state of the Turkish navy. At great cost it has been increased both in men and ships, English ideas and English practice being followed as closely as possible. Not only are English officers employed in the principal posts in the navy and in the direction of naval affairs, but even in matters of finance and administration England has been taken as a model. The Admiralty, which is not regarded with admiration here, is considered by Abdul Aziz worthy not only of respect but imitation.

Before the Russian war the Turkish navy was very feeble. It consisted of about seventy vessels and 40,000 men. Of these ships, six were ships of the line and ten frigates; while of the men, 4,000 were marines. Nearly all these ships were lost during the Russian war; those which were not destroyed at Sinope were lost in storms in the Black Sea. In 1855, therefore, the Turkish navy did not, for any practical purpose, exist. But in the course of two or three years more than twenty new screw steamers were built, the combined armament of which consisted of 820 guns. These were hardly completed before the introduction of iron-clad ships. At this time the Sultan, Abdul Medjid, died, and was succeeded by his brother, the present Sultan. One of his first determinations after ascending the throne was to maintain a powerful navy. Accordingly, he has added to his sea forces eight iron-clads. The largest of these ships is the *Osman Ghazy*, which was built by Messrs. Napier, at Glasgow, and was launched from their yard in 1864. It is armor-plated throughout, and it is not unlike the *Defence*. It has a tonnage of about 4,000 tons, and is, therefore, a large man-of-war.

Shortly after this vessel was launched another was begun by the Thames Iron Ship-Building Company. This was not so large a ship as the *Osman*, but she was to be plated with iron eight inches thick, and to carry an armament of thirty-three large Armstrong guns. The Sultan, in ordering the construction of this vessel in 1865, expressed a wish that “she might embody the advantages of every iron-clad known, and be the most powerful iron-clad in the world.” The other six iron men-of-war were also built in England, namely, the *Abdul Aziz*, the *Ourkham*, the *Fethah*, the *Izzedin*, *Fuad*, and *Ismail*. The last three were in commission four years ago, and are, for iron-clads, almost out of date. Most of the other ships, which were screw steamers, were built at the Turkish dock-yards, one of which is at Constantinople, another at Ismid, another at Ghiumlek, and the last at Amasura, in Asia Minor. Altogether, then, the Turkish navy consists of about forty ships and about thirty thousand men, of whom it is very doubtful whether even a decent minority are good sailors and good fighting men. This force costs the government about £1,000,000 sterling annually.

The Greek navy is very poor, in comparison with Turkey, as regards ships. It has only ten fighting ships exclusive of about twenty gunboats. The largest ship is a frigate of fifty guns, and the other vessels which carry more than five guns each are either corvettes or sloops. But the strength of the Greek navy does not consist so much in its ships as in its men. These are forced to serve chiefly by conscription, and are drawn from the sea-coast. They are a hardy, serviceable class of men, and in many instances volunteer for the navy of their own accord.

VICE-ADMIRAL Porter and Rear-Admiral Bailey have been appointed to represent the Navy, and Lieutenant-General Sherman and Major-General Hunter, the Army, on the committee having charge of the ceremonies, other than official, connected with the inauguration of General Grant, such as the inaugural procession and reception. Congress has been asked to grant the use of the Capitol building for a ball, and has refused. Brevet Major-General Alexander S. Webb has been appointed grand marshal. He is a grandson of Colonel Samuel B. Webb, who was grand marshal at the first inauguration of President Washington.

GENERAL Butler, President of the Volunteer Soldiers' Asylum, has ordered the closing of the Soldiers' Home in Chicago, and the transfer of the inmates to the National Asylum at Milwaukee.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Our correspondents are informed that communications intended for our columns, to receive prompt attention, should be invariably addressed to THE EDITOR of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, Box 3,201, New York.

A DESERTER'S VIEW OF CASTLE WILLIAM.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: I enclose a copy of verses taken some short time since from the knapsack of a deserter, the morning after his second desertion, in which he gives a touching account of Castle William, from a deserter's point of view; detailing his daily experience while waiting trial for his first offence. It will be seen that the writer takes the high sentimental view, borrowed probably from the New York Independent, or from some of our modern reformers, military and civil, who consider all punishments for desertion as "relics of barbarism," but desertion itself, I suppose, as a modern refinement of civilization. A singular coincidence it is, that like these sentimentalists and reformers, this effusion says not one word of the crime that brought the man to the pass which he so touchingly deplores; but keeps it so carefully in the back-ground that an uninitiated person would naturally think that a "deserter" was a grade in the service, of such honor and distinction, that the person holding it, ought to be treated with special honor, and feasted with all the luxuries of life. Indeed, I think the effusion must have been inspired by an editorial that appeared during the summer, in the New York Independent. But, seriously, I send these lines for publication, in order that any enlisted men who may read them may see that there is at least one post where deserters are treated as they deserve to be, and are not "coddled," and to say in the words of a late celebrated divine, "If we would avoid these punishments, let us avoid the crimes that lead to them."

On a visit to Governor's Island, one hot summer day, Strolling round to see the sights, I chanced upon the way With a lot of poor deserters, toiling with might and main, Worse than negroes in a cottonfield, each with a ball and chain.

A strong guard, with muskets loaded, stood near them as they worked, With bayonets fixed and ready to gouge them if they shirked, While a man called provost-sergeant, with a big club in his hand Stood cursing, like a trooper, the wretched little band.

Sadly gazing at them working, toiling in the sultry heat, I saw these poor deserters could scarce keep on their feet; They seemed quite weak with hunger, their forms were gaunt and thin, And they had barely rags enough to hide their nakedness in.

They toiled away until six o'clock, when the rattling of a drum Proclaimed to the provost-sergeant that the time had come To bring them in to supper, dealt out by a miserly hand, By one of the richest Governments that ever ruled a land.

They marched them to Castle William, on through its gloomy walls, Across a little prison-yard, into the mess hall; There they ranged them round the table, sixteen in a set, Where their supper set out ready, all the supper that they get.

To do these poor deserters justice, who receive no pay, And not enough of clothing, who have to work all day, From early morn till late at night, out in the cold or heat, 'Twould be as little as Uncle Sam could do to give them enough to eat.

Oh, shame to those who are to blame, these poor men to so treat, Many a poor man's dog, sirs, gets far more to eat; All the supper that they get on which to go to bed, Is a pint of miserable coffee, and four ounces of dry bread.

When they have done their supper, they are marched out in pairs, And formed in line in the prison yard, then they are marched up stairs To the third floor of Castle William, where sixteen in a room They are locked up like convicts, until morning has come.

In the morn at six o'clock, they are marched down again And formed in line in the prison yard, where they do remain Until the officer of the day appears and the sergeant calls the roll, When they march them to their breakfast, into the mess hall.

At breakfast, like at supper-time, they get but little to eat Besides the bread and coffee, they get a little meat, Three ounces of either pork or beef, not near enough, you'll say, To expect a man to work upon, a weary long half day.

When they are done their breakfast, again to work they go To be driven like a lot of slaves, until "recall" doth blow; When they are marched unto their dinner, which they get through, and done,

Are taken back unto their work, before the hour of one.

Oh, slowly drags the time along, with these poor wretched men, Half-clothed, half-fed, near worked to death, forced to remain Upon this dreary island, to toil their lives away, (To be lorded over by tyrants), getting neither thanks nor pay.

They have a church upon the island, where officers on Sundays go; But they have no room for deserters—they have no souls, you know. They send Bibles to the heathen, in many a distant land, To try and make them Christians, but deserters may be damned.

Oh, shame unto America, to treat her soldiers so; She can never raise an Army, to face and fight the foe, When she treats her private soldiers worse than any slave; Sooner than be an American soldier, one had best be in his grave.

A CHAPTER OF GRUMBLES.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: The first subject of complaint I have to offer is about pay. It is the "same old story" throughout the Army—we want more. Yes, not only want it, but stand absolutely in need of it for the support of ourselves and families. My pay to-day is less than it was before the war, and the prices of everything—groceries, clothing, schooling, etc.—are quintuple what they were at that time, as every one knows. A respectable mechanic is better able to-day to live on his pay than an officer of low grade in our Army. We have fought to sustain "the best government the world ever saw," and in return thereof we claim a respectable support from it—a support that would become a gentleman. Our pay during the war was little enough; but among the first steps of retrenchment Congress attended to was to reduce the Army pay to a mere pittance. Too much pruning will destroy a vine—a simile which will apply to Army pay. Too much pruning down will drive all the young warriors of any ambition and thriftiness from the service to seek a respectable support, while the old warriors, having become unfitted for anything else but their profession, are obliged to remain and fairly suffer for the necessities of life. I trust that I have said enough to convince our generous-hearted Congressmen that in asking for more pay we are, like so many Oliver Twists, only asking for what we greatly need. Now that Congress is agitating the subject of "resumption," it could not do better than to "combine practice with theory," and give us what is on the face of our pay accounts in gold.

My second complaint is about "post schools" and "recitations." As the case now stands, according to an act of Congress, at every permanent post or garrison there is to be a school for the instruction of the enlisted men and their children, under suitable instructors. The query in my mind is, who are to be the suitable instructors? At my post several commissioned officers have been selected for this duty. I do not think it was the intention of Congress that a commissioned officer should be subjected to this duty. We come in the Army to be soldiers, and not school-teachers. If we preferred the latter occupation to the former, we certainly should have selected it in preference to entering the Army, and would then have received a salary for such services in excess of our present compensation.

To call upon an officer to teach an enlisted man his A B C's (and there are numerous instances at this post of such blissful ignorance), I say is beneath that dignity of an officer which he is bound to possess or cultivate. If Congress really wishes to stir up the muddled brains of the enlisted of the Army (let me here say that I do not wish to speak disparagingly of the enlisted, for the "muddled class" I sincerely believe is in the minority, and I am familiar with instances where there are gentlemen and scholars in the ranks of the first water), and endeavor to graft therein knowledge, why, let us have a chaplain at each post, whose duty, in addition to those of a clerical nature, will be to take charge of the post school. I think an arrangement of this kind would best subserve the wishes of Congress.

My third and last grumble, at present, will be in reference to a certain class of subalterns in the artillery arm of the service. I refer to the graduates of West Point. According to present regulations, captains of batteries are obliged to hold recitations of officers at least twice a week. The text-books used are "Roberts's Hand-Book," "Artillery Tactics," parts 1 and 2, and "Gibbons's Artillerists' Manual." This matter is recited upon from October 1st to May 31st, yearly. I think it would be no more than just to exempt graduates from these recitations, for many self-evident reasons. Among them I would mention (unless I am in error) that in the Engineer and Ordnance Corps (composed almost exclusively of graduates) it is not thought necessary to subject the subalterns to weekly recitations. Neither in the cavalry or infantry are these recitations heard of. We have had a most excellent artillery school opened within a year, where all artillery subalterns are required to pass one year, where these same subjects are dealt with now taught in the batteries, besides an abundance of practical instruction in everything essential for an artillery officer to be conversant with. One would suppose that this ordeal ought to be sufficient for the alumni subalterns of West Point. Why the artillery should alone be thus favored (?) I am at a loss to know.

We have in all of our batteries gentlemen who have entered the Army from civil life. To them these battery recitations will doubtless prove of great advantage. I trust that the law thus singling out graduates in the artillery service may soon be amended. It does seem as if, after four years of successful study at West Point, they might be excused from reciting in matters with which they have become familiar during the first six months of their stay at that institution.

WEST FORTIER.

A SUGGESTION FOR CONGRESS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: As the Rules and Articles for the Government of the Armies of the United States will probably be revised by Congress this winter, I beg the use of your columns to offer a suggestion upon the Thirty-fifth Article of our present regulations. That article is the only remedy given to the inferior officer against the abuses and oppressions of his superior. Now, it must appear to every right-thinking mind, uninfluenced by selfish considerations, that the means of redress given in the Thirty-fifth article, is by no means commensurate with the powers of oppression, conferred upon the superior by the other articles. It may not be known to our Congress, but it is nevertheless true, that commanding officers have the power to drive almost any inferior officer from the service under their command, and against whom they choose to exercise the authority given by the Army Regulations. You can scarcely find an officer in the Army, except, perhaps, the officers of the Staff department, who will not tell you of the injuries he has suffered from the hands of his superior officer, at some period of his military career, and how he bore his wrongs quietly rather than hazard the chances of redress under the Thirty-fifth article, only to have his superior genteelly reprimanded by a court of inquiry, and himself returned to the tender mercies of his wronger's augmented displeasure.

Now, as only the higher grades are ever likely to be consulted in regard to the revision of the Articles of War, and as it is generally man's nature to forget the wrongs he has been made to feel so soon as the power of injuring is transferred to himself, I respectfully ask our Congress to incorporate, for the benefit of inferior officers, something like the following in the new regulations, viz.: "Any superior officer who shall have been convicted before a General Court martial of having used his office, with malice prepense, to worry or annoy those under his command, shall be cashiered." The justice of such an article must appear to every impartial mind. The reasons in support of it are almost inexhaustible. The superior officer cannot object to it, unless he wishes to prostitute his office to the base purpose of oppressing those whom Congress has given him power to command. To the inferior it would be a charter more valuable than was that of Runnymede to the great barons.

KILLING OF A DESPERADO BY GENERAL McLAUGHLIN.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: I take the liberty of sending you herewith an account of the killing of a desperado, in this vicinity, by General McLaughlin, commanding this post. I will vouch for every word, and would furthermore state that the journals here, (those I mean of the most ultra Southern views), have been compelled to publish substantially the same facts.

It is due, I think, to General McLaughlin's many friends in the Army, that a more extensive publicity should be given this than can be obtained in any local paper, and feel that your valuable journal, reaching every man of our service, is *par excellence*, the organ in which to attain this end.

It having been made the duty of commanding officers of posts to investigate reported disturbances in their neighborhoods, General McLaughlin, on Monday, started for Winnfield, accompanied only by an orderly, to obtain information in regard to the late murder of the two negroes, Fruzin and —, in that vicinity. In crossing the ferry, he received word that the two notorious desperadoes, William and Lawson Kimball, were at their father's house, directly on his road, and having made several unsuccessful attempts to arrest them, by reason of their always receiving word of his movements, he determined this time to see if he could not be more successful. Upon reaching their house and inquiring for them he was informed by their mother that they had started that morning for Texas; after searching the house and not finding them, he resumed his road to Winnfield. He had proceeded but a short distance when he discovered William Kimball about three hundred yards ahead of him, mounted, revolver in hand; immediately on catching sight of the General he dashed off for the woods, the General following, running thus for about a mile, the General being then about sixty yards behind; here Kimball encountered a deep mud-hole some ten yards wide, in attempting to cross which the girth of his saddle broke and he was thrown to the ground. Upon the General reaching this point he discovered Kimball on the opposite bank, dismounted, with his pistol levelled from behind his horse and demanding his surrender; the General replying that he was about making the same demand, reached down to raise his shot gun, which was loaded with number five bird shot, when Kimball fired the first shot, striking the General's horse in the neck and passing through; the General then fired, his shot taking effect in the head and forehead of Kimball, the only parts visible above his horse's shoulders; Kimball returned the shot, and the General fired his second barrel of bird shot; then drawing his revolver, they continued firing until four shots had been exchanged, when Kimball expressed his readiness to surrender. The General ordered him to throw down his weapon, having two more loads, which he did, and the General called for his orderly; the orderly not being within hearing distance, the General himself dismounted, immediately upon which Kimball seized his revolver, leaped upon his horse barebacked, and started again. Before the General could mount and cross the mud-hole, Kimball had got considerable start, but after a quarter of a mile's run the distance was reduced to some fifteen paces, when he turned and fired his fifth shot, the General returning it. The General now pressed his horse until about ten yards abreast and to the left of Kimball, when he snapped his sixth barrel, and the General firing at almost the same moment killed the outlaw instantly. Tying the horse to mark the spot, and picking up his weapon, he retraced his steps and found at the point from whence he had started, his orderly, a younger brother of Kimball, and several citi-

men, all of whom he took back to show the position of the body. Upon returning to the spot, however, he found that the body was already surrounded by old Kimball and two others, armed with double-barrelled shot guns, and not liking the appearance of things, he started off to Saint Maurice, where he informed the coroner of the circumstances, and then returned to Natchitoches. It has been ascertained that General McLaughlin was followed by several men to the river, arriving only about fifteen minutes after his crossing.

It should be mentioned that true bills for murder have been found against this desperado, in both Natchitoches and Winn parishes, and evidence is almost conclusive that he was one of the murderers of Lieutenant Butts, of the Veteran Reserve Corps, some three years ago, and assisted at his burning, which, it has been feared, took place prior to death.

JOHN K. WALSH, M. D., Post Surgeon.
POST OF GRAND ECORE, LA., Dec. 24, 1868.

THE STEAM ENGINEERING OF THE NAVY.

THE following is the important debate in the House on the bill permitting the appointment of a civilian engineer to the position of Chief of the Bureau of Steam Engineering of the Navy Department:

Mr. KELLEY, from the same committee, reported back, with the recommendation that it do pass, the bill (H. R. No. 728) relating to the Bureau of Steam Engineering in the Navy Department.

The bill proposes to provide that from and after this date, to secure the further efficiency of the Navy, a civilian may be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to fill the position of chief of the Bureau of Steam Engineering of the Navy Department.

Mr. KELLEY. There were many considerations moving the committee to the approval of this bill. I beg leave to state a few of them. There is no branch of science in which more progress has been made within the last quarter of a century than that of engineering. The science of engineering and the tools and appliances used by engineers or in the construction of steam engines have probably improved more rapidly than any other department of science or the useful arts. The Engineer Corps of the Navy is necessarily a small one. The number of chief engineers is but fifty-two. There are many men of mark in that corps. But the field of their operations is circumscribed. There is a much wider field for the development of engineering skill and judgment in the general civil service of the country, in the development of our mechanical and material resources, and in the wide field of the steam commercial marine. The committee believe that the Government should have access, in selecting an engineer-in-chief, to this wider field of experience and study than the Navy with its formulas and, to use a popular phrase, red tape, affords. It is not believed by the Naval Committee that our Navy exhibits the highest character of engineering. Reports come to us from line officers on every station and other observers, that our vessels move by steam alone, while those of other nations, with more adequate steam apparatus, resort to their sails while cruising on stations, and thus save the fuel ours consume and the wear and tear of machinery they are undergoing. Line officers report to us from every station that our vessels, when they move, impelled by our style of engines, move only to look at the sterns of competing vessels, even of those of the little South American States which have navies.

It was therefore believed that great good would accrue to the service by authorizing the head of the Navy Department or the President of the United States to look over the whole field of engineers and select, if he can find one, a Stephenson or an Ericsson, that we might, in our naval service, enjoy the economy that is practised and the efficiency attained by other nations. These are some of the views that controlled the Committee on Naval Affairs in instructing me to report this bill.

So far as I am personally concerned I am, however, ready to enforce its adoption by other suggestions. But if any gentleman desires information on any special point in connection with this subject I will gladly yield to him, to hear and answer his question.

Mr. WASHBURN, of Illinois. I really should like some further information than the gentleman has given us before I vote for the creation of another office. The gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. Kelley] very well understands the number of bureaus in the Navy Department. I believe they amount to no less than nine, and among them all this Bureau of Steam Engineering has been the source of more trouble, complaint, and expense to the Government than all the other bureaus there; and I cannot, with the explanation of the gentleman, so far as I have heard it, assent to the creation of another bureau with another salaried officer. I did not catch the gentleman's idea of what particular benefit he expects the Government will receive from this office, and therefore I do not fully understand why we should create another bureau in the Navy Department at the present time.

Mr. KELLEY. The bill does not contemplate the creation of another office; it does, however, open the possibility, as the gentleman has suggested, of adding one to the number of chief engineers. The office of engineer-in-chief is now a distinctive office; but that officer must, under existing laws, be selected from the engineer corps of the Navy. I apprehend that there would have been a saving to the government of tens, indeed I think I may say of hundreds of millions of dollars, if we had had such an engineer-in-chief as might have been selected from civil life instead of having the engineer department of the Navy managed as it has been during the war.

I ask the gentleman whether, among the numerous complaints of which he speaks, he has not heard those to which I have alluded, namely, that we have the slowest Navy in the world; that in the strife between the engineer corps and the line, the engineer corps endeavoring to exalt itself above the line, they have made our ships

depend entirely on steam, fuel, and machinery, so that the engineer shall be the important man on the ship, and subordinate to him the naval officer to whom the command belongs?

The result of this attempt of the engineer corps to subordinate the line has been that while the vessels of other nations sail to distant stations and from point to point while on stations, using steam as an auxiliary and in exigencies, our vessels have not adequate sails and rigging to move them, burdened as they are with machinery and fuel, even with fair breezes. When they change their location they must resort to coal, no matter how many hundred dollars per ton it may cost us. The saving in this matter alone will equal the salary not only of an engineer-in-chief but the pay of a large part of the engineer corps.

Has not the gentleman from Illinois also heard that under the management of our present engineer-in-chief, the cherished head of the engineer corps of the Navy, we have a ship said to be the fleetest on the ocean, the *Wampanoag*, but which cannot carry her own fuel for a month, together with food for the competent number of officers and men for the same time? So much of her room is taken up by engines, coal-bunkers, fire-room, etc., that the officers in command of what is boasted of as the fleetest ship in the world are compelled to occupy quarters less commodious than are allowed on ordinary merchant ships moved by steam. It is possible that in selecting some future Stephenson or Ericsson an additional office may be created; but if he shall give us a navy which, when on stations, doing merely watch duty, can move as the ships of other navies do, under sail—which, when merely making formal cruises can, as other vessels do, move under sail—you will find that he will as I have already intimated, save each day to the Treasury of the country more than the annual salary of the engineer-in-chief of the Navy.

Mr. WASHBURN, of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I do not doubt the truth of what the gentleman says. His remarks only corroborate what I have already stated as to the complaints, the just complaints, which have been made in regard to this Bureau of Steam Engineering. But I differ with the gentleman as to the remedy. I do not conceive it necessary for us, in order to obtain a remedy for these things, to create a new officer.

Mr. KELLEY. Will the gentleman state the remedy he would suggest?

Mr. WASHBURN, of Illinois. I would turn out the present officer and put in a better man.

Mr. KELLEY. Can you find such a man in the engineer corps?

Mr. WASHBURN, of Illinois. I do not know. I presume a good man can be found in the engineer corps.

Mr. KELLEY. Now, Mr. Speaker, I want to say that thus far I have been speaking for the committee, and expressing the views which I heard expressed around me in the committee-room when the bill was under consideration. I will now speak for myself, and present some facts that impel me to support the bill which I was directed by the committee to present and advocate. I say that the *esprit de corps*, as disclosed in a series of stupid or corrupt transactions, is so widely diffused in our engineer corps of the Navy that I would not trust the corps to indicate its own chief. We advise the head of the Government as to his selection.

Sir, the steam navy depends upon its machinery. I reiterate what I have already said, that the progress of science with reference to appliances for erecting and managing machinery exceeds the progress made in any other branch of useful science during the last quarter of a century. Yet I tell the gentleman from Illinois and you, Mr. Speaker, that within the last two years your engineer corps have been buying out old machine-shops and converting the machine-shops of your navy-yards into old junk-shops. I tell you that at the Philadelphia navy-yard, under the shadow of the shops of the most celebrated tool-makers in the country, Wm. Sellers & Co., and Bement & Dougherty, they have purchased within eighteen months, tools that were superannuated twenty years ago; that they have bought tools such as you cannot find in any modern workshops in the United States or Europe; that they have paid \$20,000 for three superannuated or worn-out tools which any practical engineer in the country would swear would not be worth, in a machine-shop the space they occupy, if the proprietors had the means of buying adequate tools. And, sir, I tell you more, that they have paid for the scrap-iron which still retains the general form of machines, more money than would have bought new tools in Philadelphia, in Newark, New Jersey, in Providence, Rhode Island, in Worcester, Massachusetts, or at any other point in the country, at which tools for the manufacture of steam engines are made. These facts will hereafter come before you, sir, officially, though I now state them on my personal authority only.

My argument is, sir, that for the purpose of breaking up—which ever it may be—the complicity in crime, or the *esprit de corps* of the engineer corps, we should allow the incoming Administration to select an engineer-in-chief from the widest field. I ask the attention of the gentleman from Illinois to this suggestion; that so widely diffused is the *esprit de corps* in the engineer corps, or so complete is the complicity in wrong among its head and certain members, that we should let the light of practical judgment and the general integrity of the community go into that Department and endeavor to reclaim, if possible, our Navy from its destroyers, and our Treasury from those who are bleeding it to death.

I beg leave to remark to gentlemen from New England, that if they will go to the navy-yard at Portsmouth, they will find there, boxed up under sheds, for which the Government has no use, and which, though bought more than eighteen months ago, have not been set up, old tools bought from an engine manufactory which was being abandoned, not because the proprietor was giving up the business, but because he had bought a new shop, and it was better for him to sell his old tools to the engineer department of the United States Navy, than to remove them to his new shop near by the old one. For the Philadelphia yard, they have bought a planer after

eleven years' use; part of the time in the city of Philadelphia, part in the city of St. Louis, and part in the works of John Roach & Son, New York, from whom it was bought for \$6,000, when they could have bought a new one from Branch & Dougherty, its makers, or the Gould Machine Company, Newark, New Jersey, or any of the manufacturers of such tools, for \$6,000. So, eleven years of use, transportation about the country, and repairing damage, made that old tool worth to the engineers of the navy \$600, or ten per cent., more than a first-class new tool fresh from the shop of its makers, or their rivals in business.

These are some of the reasons which I urge personally. The broad comprehensive reasons are those by which the committee were governed. The information I am laying before you, had not reached any of the members of the committee when they acted on the bill under consideration, and therefore I am not at liberty to speak for other members of the committee on this branch of the subject. But on my personal responsibility I state these facts, and stand prepared to prove them before the House, in conjunction with a vast mass, more damning than any I have referred to; and I think the gentleman from Illinois will probably find that he will promote economy even if the incoming Administration should add a chief-engineer to the corps, and save countless millions of dollars.

Mr. MAYNARD. Cannot the Secretary now secure the best engineering and skill outside?

Mr. KELLEY. No, sir; he is confined in the selection of the engineer-in-chief to the limited corps of chief engineers in the Navy; and, as pertinent to the gentleman's question, I will say that two naval boards, two boards of engineers—and from that fact I derive my conviction of complicity—two naval boards, with these facts staring them in the face, with this evidence drawn from the files of the department of steam engineering at the Philadelphia navy-yard, with no conflict of testimony between individuals on several of the points, the papers speaking for themselves, and I have them here—two boards of engineers have found these transactions honest and honorable and advantageous to the United States Government. It appears from the papers in the engineer department, official copies of which I hold in my hand, that in August, 1866, when the decline in prices in such things after the close of the war had but begun, William Sellers & Co. offered the department twenty-five ton cranes, wood-work, iron-work, the machines all complete, for \$2,000; and here, under the same certificate of the department, from papers furnished by the same office, it is in evidence that in 1868, when the average of fifteen per cent. fall had taken place, they bought from John Roach & Sons inferior cranes of the same size for \$2,250, the price of William Sellers & Co., at the same date for the same cranes having fallen to \$1,600. They paid John Roach & Sons \$2,250 when they had official evidence before them that William Sellers & Co., the men who carried off the gold medal at the recent International Exposition, would furnish them for \$1,600. Again, sir, the same official papers show that they received on the 24th of August, 1866, offers from Bement & Dougherty, the rivals of William Sellers & Co., for fifteen-ton cranes at \$1,500, and that eighteen months thereafter, with a declining market, they paid to their favorites, John Roach & Sons, \$1,750 each for five of these cranes.

Mr. MAYNARD. I do not know what this has to do with my question.

Mr. KELLEY. I am coming to the point. Citizens of Philadelphia were outraged by seeing the Navy-yard gorged like a "junk-shop" with old tools brought from different parts of the country. They appealed to the Navy Department, and the Navy Department appointed a board of naval engineers to investigate the matter, and with these facts before them they whitewashed the transaction and reported that they saw nothing dishonest in these things. An appeal from their decision was made to the Secretary of the Navy, and another board of engineers was appointed and gave these transactions their approval. That is the reason I wish to go outside of the corps for an officer to indicate boards of inquiry. I will not further delay action on this bill, but will hereafter discuss the matters I have broached in the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union. I now demand the previous question.

The previous question was seconded and the main question ordered; and under the operation thereof the bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time; and being engrossed, was accordingly read the third time. The bill passed by a vote of 97 to 23.

THE tenth volume of Varnhagen's journals, just published at Leipzig, contains a curious account of the meeting of the sovereigns at Dresden in 1812, as related by the late King of Prussia, who was then Crown Prince. While at dinner (so runs the story) Napoleon received some news which seemed to trouble him, upon which, without paying the slightest attention to the Empress of Austria who sat next to him, he leaned back in his chair and yawned loudly. He then rose and walked hurriedly up and down the room, the Emperor Francis, the Kings of Prussia and Saxony, and the ladies, all respectfully waiting his pleasure. At last Napoleon exclaimed, in a violent tone, "Prince de Neufchâtel!" The Prince then came to him and received his orders; after which Napoleon again called out in the same tone as before, "Roi de Saxe!" This summons, like the last, was duly responded to, and the King was summarily dismissed after a few minutes' conversation. Napoleon next went up to the Crown Prince of Prussia, measured him with his eye from head to foot, and then pinching him by the ear, said: "Vous ressemblez beaucoup à votre mère." The Prince was silent. "Avez-vous vu la forteresse?" Napoleon continued. "Non," was the reply. According to Austrian accounts, Napoleon then exclaimed angrily "Vous êtes une bête." This addition to the story, however, does not appear in the Prince's own version of it, which merely says that he was afterward bitterly reproached by all his relations for not having said "Non, sire," instead of only "Non."

FOREIGN MILITARY AND SCIENTIFIC.

Mr. Betram, inventor of a process for welding boiler and other plates by gas, has secured an extension of seven years of his patent, which was granted in 1854.

A NEW military penal code has been promulgated in Sweden. It abolishes corporal punishment as being contrary to the principles of humanity and injurious to the dignity of a soldier.

THE Imperial Sanitary Report of the Indian Army, just issued, records that four hundred and seventy-one deaths arose in the European Army of India from cholera in 1866-'67. Soldiers' wives and children were numerous among the victims. The origin of this frightful epidemic among the troops is proved to have been the establishment of a large camp of pilgrims at the Hurdwar fair, Bengal. The actual source of the choleraic poison was the water polluted by bathing, etc.

IN Bayonne, France, some artisans took an old shell which had been lying many years about their shop to add to the weight on the balance of their forge, which was insufficiently weighted, and proceeded to fix a hook in the wooden plug, to suspend it. At the second blow of the hammer the charge burst, killing one man, mutilating the other horribly, and also wounding a third who was entering the door at the moment. He has since had his left arm amputated, and is in danger of becoming totally blind. The shell had been made and loaded in the year 1813.

AT its recent meeting, the British Association appointed a committee, consisting of the foremost men of science, to consider and report upon the subject of State intervention to secure the progress of physical science. For the public good, at the public cost, the suggestion is, that there should be established authorities and organizations whose duty it would be to "undertake and complete, in an accurate and systematic manner, costly and tedious investigations on which vast interests may be dependent." As an argument in favor of this measure it is shown how, to the advantage of commerce, the Greenwich Observatory is maintained by the nation; and it is intimated, the observatory would immensely suffer by the withdrawal of the State patronage. It is reported that an effort will soon be made to unite all the scientific bodies of London into one institution, under the title of the British Academy of Sciences.

THE outer walls of the palace of the Tycoon of Japan surround an area of eight square miles, within which are accommodations for all the great Daimios who come to Jeddo to spend at least two months in the year. These yashikis are within the outer and second walls. The third wall encloses barracks for troops, stables, magazines, etc. There are two more walls before the citadel is reached, but beyond the third wall the eye of the barbarian is not allowed to penetrate. That the Japanese understood the art of defence, says a correspondent, a sight of the construction of these walls would alone convince one. No wall of any fort in the United States is built stronger or better. The moats in front of the walls are very wide and deep; but one thing puzzles one—there is actually no defence for the bridges. The drawbridge seems to have been entirely unknown to them. The only way that the bridges can be defended is by posting troops and guns at the ends.

MR. BUCHSER, a Swiss artist, is now in this country engaged in executing an order given by the Swiss Government for a great historical tableau, or an adornment for the hall of the Federal Council, to combine if possible some of the most prominent Americans of the present epoch. Mr. Buchser has been in the United States about twelve months, studying the country and the people. He has taken innumerable sketches of the vicinity of Lake Superior; in the South; and also of the Rocky mountains, which he visited in company with General Sherman. He has also taken the portraits of many prominent men, among them Lieutenant-General Sherman, President Johnson and Mr. W. C. Bryant. He will next take the portraits of Mr. Seward and General Sheridan, and that of General Grant. Mr. Buchser intends to take, also, the portrait of General R. E. Lee.

THE Reconstruction Committee of Congress have issued subpoenas for Generals Reynolds, Gillem and Shepard to appear before them and give testimony regarding the present condition of Texas and Mississippi, and what in their opinion is necessary to be done to restore those States to a peaceful and prosperous condition. General Reynolds is expected daily in Washington, and Generals Gillem and Shepard are already there.

THE English Lifeboat Institution has 189 lifeboat stations round the coasts of the United Kingdom; in eleven months of the present year 697 lives have been saved by their means, raising the grand total to 17,684; and the Turkish Government has ordered four lifeboats from an English builder.

U. S. ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 1869.

In order to accommodate the subscribers of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, we have made arrangements with several of the best periodicals, by which we can send them and the JOURNAL together, at reduced rates, as follows:

The JOURNAL and THE GALAXY.....	\$8 00—Regular price, \$10 00
The JOURNAL and HARPER'S BAZAR.....	8 00 " " 10 00
The JOURNAL and HARPER'S WEEKLY.....	8 00 " " 10 00
The JOURNAL and HARPER'S MONTHLY.....	8 00 " " 10 00
The JOURNAL and EVERY SATURDAY.....	9 00 " " 11 00
The JOURNAL and TREE, FIELD, & FARM.....	9 00 " " 11 00
The JOURNAL and THE ROUND TABLE.....	9 00 " " 11 00

MR. EDMUNDS'S BILL.

THE discussion provoked by the first hour's consideration of Mr. EDMUNDS's bill in the Senate did not, as had been expected, specifically turn on its applicability to the military service. As reported from the Judiciary Committee, the bill is substantially, though differing in form, what it was when referred thither. It provides that no person shall hold, or receive salary or compensation for performing the duties of more than one office or place of trust or profit, under the United States, at the same time, whether such office or place be civil, military, or naval; and that any person violating this provision shall be deemed to have vacated the office which he holds at the time of the acceptance of the other.

It will be observed that this is the same measure, in drift and effect, as that to which we referred last week, and of which we then expressed disapproval. Our conviction is that it was originally designed to keep military and naval officers out of civil positions; and this it accomplishes by providing that the acceptance of a civil office shall be deemed a resignation of the officer's professional position. It is true that the bill is made also to apply to civil officers accepting military positions; but as there is no immediate danger in that direction, we may assume that this proviso is added for the appearance of even-handed justice.

Now, while in semblance this bill is designed to give military and naval officers an option of positions, it really excludes them as effectually as if it frankly said so in so many words. An officer, having a permanent and life-long situation in the Army or Navy, is not likely to resign it for the temporary charms of civil life. He loses his profession in so doing, and the object to which his life is devoted, for an accidental employment. Take Gen. GRANT's case. When he was called to the post of Secretary of War, he must, on accepting it, under such a law as Mr. EDMUNDS proposes, have resigned his position as General of the Army. It may be replied that he need not have accepted it. Very true; but we should have been the losers in that case, not he.

So it is with General SCHOFIELD, whose pay and emoluments, under the ordinary economy of Army life, might go farther than a Cabinet officer in Washington can make his salary go, and whose loss of rank and profession would have been ill-requited, probably, by his brief seat in the Cabinet councils. So it would be with Vice-Admiral PORTER, for example, if called to the Naval Bureau. Let us remember that it is proposed to prevent us from using their abilities, as well as to prevent them from serving us. The sword cuts both ways. The ground, however, on which this bill was actually discussed, was somewhat different from that just set forth. It was admitted, in the first place, that the existing law prohibited the holding of two offices at the same time; and the inquiry was made, what need there was of additional legislation. To this the author of the bill replied that it was designed to prohibit the payment of two salaries to the same person—a point not covered by the existing law. If this were the intent, it seems to us that it could be provided for by directing that the officer should not be paid two salaries, and not by providing that his acceptance of one appointment should be construed as vacating a previous office held by him.

But is not the principle admitted in debate—that two offices should not be held by the same

person—too broad? At first sight, it looks like a means of preventing the accumulation of too great gains and too great influence in the hands of a single person. But, while this is true as a general thing, yet, when it is put into the form of such a law as Mr. EDMUNDS proposes, its influence is disastrous in the opposite direction. It utterly thwarts many schemes of economy; it multiplies offices without multiplying services; and, in a system containing a given number of duties, it increases the number of officers who are to perform those duties.

Difficulties no doubt there are in the wise adjustment of any system permitting two offices to be held by the same person. But the fact is, that we do not propose double office-holding as a system, but only as a possibility. We suggest that it is not wise to prevent that possibility by legislation, since there are supposable cases in which it is desirable. Take, for example, the case (one of several that could be cited) mentioned by Mr. FESSENDEN, where it has been the custom to appoint the collector of the revenue in certain places superintendent of the light-house, and pay him a small salary for his services in that capacity, "a kind of appointment to which there could be no reasonable objection, but which would be prohibited by this bill, unless its terms were modified." Take, again, the case of the postmasters throughout the country, so many of whom hold, and very properly, other places of "trust or profit." It will be replied that these can be made special exceptions under the law. We answer that no conceivable form of words can make a general exception sufficient for the purpose without ruining the original bill, and rendering it *brutum fulmen*—a piece of empty and aimless legislation. Depart from those words, "office of trust or profit," and nothing satisfactory can be substituted; and yet with them there will be a creation of new offices and a division of old ones quite against the principle of national economy. Let us return, for example, to the case cited by Mr. FESSENDEN. Surely it would be vastly inconvenient to put in the laws concerning internal revenue a provision authorizing the collectors at such and such points through the United States also to become light-house keepers, as it would be in the light-house laws to introduce provisions allowing such and such keepers to become collectors of internal revenue. It would be impossible to legislate, we say, in this way, because it is not one case, but many possible cases, which would have to be provided for in all laws; and even then there would be some that could not be provided for.

If, on the other hand, we look into the various offices of "trust or profit," we shall see abundant reason for wishing that the rule, in the interests of economy, were just the other way—that it were lawful to hold two offices at once, and perhaps on reduced salaries. We should have in the duties of the Government, as a general principle, more to do, fewer officers to do the duties, and higher pay. But the interests of partisan service, and the desire of rewarding party devotion, have resulted in making a host of partial sinecures.

We say *partial* sinecures, and in that phrase lies the pith of the argument. Were they total sinecures, the offices might be abolished. But a few necessary duties are connected with all, and the appropriate remedy therefore is the concentration of duties in fewer persons. If we reflect upon those positions in the civil service with which we are familiar, we shall find some of them absorbing but few hours a day, or a few days in the week. This is not ordinarily the fault of the incumbents, who, with small labor, are able to do all that is required. Were it open to them to add to these the duties of other offices, even with a portion of their salaries, the result would be greater efficiency, better pay, and hence a better grade of men in the civil service.

But, turning from the general subject to its particular application to the Army and Navy, we shall find still greater reason for deprecating unwise legislation on this point. The necessities of a substantial military establishment are admitted. Yet, in time of peace, we often find very able officers in both services confined to the monotonous routine of duties which are more difficult, from

their very lack of interest, than much harder work. In an ungenerous judgment, some legislators are in the habit of slurring at this state of things, and talking of "supporting men who have nothing to do." And yet these same legislators are for preventing, by law, our best Army and Navy officers from giving the benefit of their professional knowledge and ability to the country.

The number of positions requiring professional military skill is so very small in our Government that it would seem unnecessary to make a general law of this sort regarding them. And it seems to us not only needless, but unwise, to prevent the use of that technical skill in these very posts. As to the question of salaries, that is a very different matter. We do not imagine that any objection will ever be made to preventing an officer of the Army or Navy, even if he were disposed, from drawing double pay. The true anxiety should be to take care lest, under a false theory of legislation, the country is prevented from getting the services of some of the ablest and best of its citizens in offices where precisely the kind of education and training which they have received is almost indispensable to the discharge of the duties.

Other countries certainly find no difficulty in such matters. On the contrary, they are not so unwise as to put it out of their power to temporarily call the best talent to their civil services, in certain posts, even if this be military or naval talent. The rule should be to put "the right man in the right place;" and this we can hardly do by providing that the acceptance of a temporary duty shall be punished by the forfeiture of a life-long occupation and a regular profession.

VENTILATION OF MONITORS.

ON the publication of the late report of Mr. ISHERWOOD, we noticed his pretentious claim to the invention of the system of ventilation which he admits was so successfully adopted in our iron-clads. As this system, adopted in the *Passaic* class, was planned a few days after the fight in Hampton Roads, we were at a loss to understand the grounds on which Mr. ISHERWOOD based his claim, and we had intended pointing it out, but the following letter written by Captain ERICSSON to the Secretary of the Navy, exposes the absurdity of this claim in a more thorough manner than we could have done:

My attention having been called to the report of the Chief of the Bureau of Steam Engineering which accompanies your report to the President, dated December 7, 1868, I beg respectfully to submit the following statement:

The Chief of the Bureau of Steam Engineering asserts that "the system now universally employed in ventilating the monitors was invented by the Bureau. That the original monitor had no provision of any kind whatever for ventilation," and that the Bureau "devised the system which, with slight and obvious modifications to suit local details, has substantially been used in all succeeding vessels of this type." I regret being compelled to state, in justice to myself, that these assertions are utterly devoid of truth.

The original *Monitor*, so far from lacking means for supplying the interior of the vessel with air, was provided with two fan blowers, worked by independent steam engines, one on each side of the vessel, nineteen feet forward of the propeller well. By means of these fan-blowers fresh air was drawn in through hatches in the deck, rendered impregnable against vertical shell-firing by heavy iron gratings. Trunks, composed of light wrought iron plates, surrounded the grated hatches; the arrangement being such that the trunks could easily be removed before going into action. The fresh air drawn in by the two sets of fan-blowers was discharged into the interior of the vessel, about one-half of the volume entering under the boiler furnaces, while the remainder was conveyed through the passage by the side of the boilers, to the quarters, at the forward end of the vessel. The preliminary trials of the *Monitor* in the bay of New York proved this mode of effecting ventilation and supporting the combustion in the boiler furnaces, to be in all respects satisfactory. Nor did the ventilation prove inadequate during the service of the vessel in Hampton Roads, unless by reason of accident to the blower-belts. Lieutenant JEFFERS, in the criticism of the *Monitor* contained in his report of May 22, 1862, written on board of that vessel, then stationed in James River, under an almost vertical sun, does not deny that a sufficient quantity of air was supplied, only objecting to its being warm-

ed by passing through the boiler room in its course to the berth deck. In answer to the reasonable objection urged by Lieutenant JEFFERS, and in order to refute the absurd claim of originality set up by the Chief of the Bureau of Steam Engineering, I respectfully refer you to the following extract of my letter to the Department, dated May 29, 1862. "The simple expedient of allowing one of the fan-blowers to force the pure air, which it draws from the external atmosphere, directly into the forward part of the vessel, will render the berth deck even more agreeable than the open air, as it is sheltered from the sun's rays. I had the honor to explain yesterday that the original intention with the *Monitor* was to force the whole of the fresh air through the forward part of the vessel, before entering the engine-room. The change, which now proves injudicious, (under an almost vertical sun) was made after full consultation with your Superintendent Engineer, it being found that the air was too cold for the men unless warmed by being first passed through the engine-room."

The original *Monitor* being intended only for active service in smooth water, the air trunks were made of light plate iron, as already stated, in order to be readily removed before conflict; but in the *Dictator* and *Puritan*, intended for sea service, the trunks supplying air for the boiler furnaces and for ventilating the aft part of the hulls were stationary, and composed of several thicknesses of plates, in order to be impregnable against horizontal firing. As in the *Monitor*, heavy iron gratings were introduced at the base of the air trunks, to afford protection against vertical shell firing.

The *Passaic* class of monitors, I beg respectfully to remind you, had no such air trunks, the air for supplying the combustion in the boiler furnaces and for ventilation, being drawn in through the perforated top plates of the turrets, by means of fan-blowers worked by separate steam engines. This plan of drawing in the air through the perforated tops of the turrets I had, however, devised already in 1854. Please refer to the accompanying engraved copy of a drawing of a turret vessel forwarded to Emperor Napoleon III., in September of that year. You will find in the specification printed on the engraving, the following explanation: "Air for combustion in the boilers and for ventilation within the vessel, is supplied by a large self acting centrifugal blower, the fresh air being drawn in through numerous small holes in the turret."

It will thus be seen, that in the original *Monitor*, I adopted the plan of supplying the interior of the vessel and the boiler furnaces with air by means of trunks placed over openings in the deck, through which trunks the air was drawn by fan blowers worked by separate steam engines. This plan, as already stated, I afterward applied to the *Dictator* and *Puritan*. And you are aware that it was adopted in vessels of the monitor type, built at the navy-yards. The plan of drawing in the air through the turrets, which I adopted for the *Passaic* class of monitors and which has been applied to all but six of the turret vessels of the U. S. Navy, was devised in 1854, as shown by the engraving and specification referred to.

In the face of these facts, the Chief of the Bureau of Steam Engineering, Mr. B. F. Isherwood, states in his report that "the system now universally employed in ventilating the monitors was invented by the Bureau." I am restrained by respect for the Department from commenting on this palpable untruth, but I most respectfully and earnestly request that my refutation be placed on record, officially. By acceding to this request you will vindicate history and remove a stain from the records of the Navy Department.

THE event of the week in Congress has been the passage in the House of Representatives of the act repealing what is known as the Tenure of Office bill, by the decisive vote of 119 to 47. The Senate has yet to act upon this measure before it comes to the President for his signature. In the Senate, Mr. Anthony of Rhode Island introduced a bill to define and settle the staff rank in the Navy, which was referred to the committee on Naval affairs. It provides that the existing regulations of the Navy Department relating to the rank of the several staff corps of the Navy shall have the force and effect of law; but it is further provided that nothing in this act shall be construed so as to authorize any increase of pay over that now received by the several officers of such staff corps, or to confer any right to exercise military command or title to additional quarters, and that the commanding officer of a station, squadron, or ship shall always have rank and precedence over all officers under his command, whether on shore or afloat. Mr. Anthony also introduced a bill to regulate the rank of the medical staff of the Navy, which was referred to the committee on Naval affairs.

In the House Mr. Banks introduced a bill to establish a protectorate over the West India Islands, to which

amendments were offered sufficient to include most of the outlying creation, even Ireland presenting a claim for protection through one of her New York representatives. The whole subject was finally tabled by a decisive vote. An attempt to establish a territorial government for Alaska was killed in the same way. The Military Academy appropriation bill passed the House. It appropriates \$271,558. The Naval appropriation bill was discussed in committee of the whole. The appropriation for the Philadelphia Navy-yard was cut down from \$50,000 to \$25,000. The proviso to reduce the force of the marine corps, and the third section regulating the rank and number of officers of the marine corps were struck out on a point of order that it was general legislation. A bill to reorganize and increase the officers of the medical department of the Navy, was reported from the committee on Naval affairs, and laid on the table. A joint resolution passed both Houses, continuing the committee of the last session, on ordnance, and the same representatives were reappointed.

BREVET Major-General Lovell H. Rousseau, commanding the Fifth Military District, died at New Orleans on the 7th instant, at the age of fifty years. His disease was congestion of the bowels. General Rousseau was a native of Kentucky, and of Huguenot descent. Before the Mexican war he had taken a considerable part in the politics of the State, his profession being that of the law. When the war broke out he was appointed a captain of Volunteers, and at Buena Vista gained an honorable mention. After the war he returned to the practice of law in Kentucky, and speedily gained a leading place in his profession, continuing at the same time to hold a prominent position in politics. He was in the State Senate when the great civil war threatened, and was one of a small minority who, while they were not prepared to sustain the Republican party were equally unprepared to espouse the cause of secession. He accordingly resigned his civil position, and in June, 1861, was commissioned Colonel of Volunteers. For his skilful and successful movement in preventing the rebel invasion of Kentucky with intent to capture Louisville, he was, in October of the same year, promoted to be a Brigadier-General, and assigned to the command of a brigade. General Rousseau subsequently took part in the second day of Shiloh, in the operations before Corinth. After the retreat of Beauregard he was placed in command of the Third Division of the Army of the Ohio. For services at the battle of Perryville he was given his Major-Generalship of Volunteers, and after the retreat of Bragg commanded a division in the Army of the Cumberland, under Major-General Thomas.

The war over General Rousseau resigned his commission, and was soon elected to Congress. His experience there will be readily recalled. He took the side of President Johnson and became his earnest supporter. When Mr. Grinnell, of Iowa, used language reflecting on his military career, for which he did not apologize, General Rousseau punished him with a pretty severe caning, was censured by the House and immediately resigned. But he was re-elected by an overwhelming vote, and served out his term, declining a re-election. Toward the close of 1867 Mr. Johnson, whose friend he had so steadfastly remained, made him a Brigadier-General in the Regular Army, and he was ordered to take possession of the newly acquired Territory of Alaska. From here he was recalled, to take command of the Fifth Military District. His mixed civil and military administration is well understood by our readers. He gained the confidence and respect of those who were with him and the severe censure of those who were opposed to him in politics.

The funeral of General Rousseau took place in New Orleans on the 9th instant, and was numerously attended. His pall-bearers were Generals Hatch, Mower, Beckwith, Babcock, Porter, Tompkins, and McClure, of the Army, and Generals Steedman, Herron, Lee, McMillan, Bussey, and Gurney, formerly of the Volunteer service. The funeral escort was composed of the First Infantry, Battery K, First Artillery, Company G, Sixth Cavalry, besides civilian organizations.

General Grant has issued an order announcing, with regret, the death of Major-General Lovell H. Rousseau, and reciting at length the valuable services rendered to the country by the deceased, during the war with Mexico and during the recent rebellion. The order closes by directing that thirteen minute guns be fired, commencing at meridian, and the national flag be displayed at half staff from the same hour until sunset on the day after the receipt of the order, at each of the posts within the department of Louisiana. Officers of the Army serving in the same department will wear the prescribed badge of mourning for thirty days.

THE British government has ordered the fortress of Gibraltar to be placed on a war footing.

ABSTRACT OF SPECIAL ORDERS

(Issued from the Adjutant-General's Office for the week ending January 11, 1869.)

Monday, January 4th.

By direction of the Secretary of War, Second Lieutenant George A. Garretson, Fourth U. S. Artillery, acting signal officer, is hereby relieved from duty in the office of the Chief Signal Officer of the Army, and will report in person, without delay, to the commanding officer of his company, Fort Washington, Maryland, for duty.

Under the Joint Resolution approved July 26, 1866, and to complete his record on the rolls, the discharge of First Sergeant Pearl G. Ingalls, Company (B), Eighth Maine Volunteers, made to date Nov. 28, 1864, is, by direction of the Secretary of War, hereby amended to date October 26, 1864; he is mustered in as second lieutenant, same company, to date October 27, 1864; mustered out as such to date December 14, 1864; his muster as first lieutenant, same company, made December 22, 1864, is amended to date December 15, 1864, and he is mustered for pay in those grades for the periods embraced between the aforesaid dates.

By direction of the Secretary of War, so much of Special Orders No. 410, paragraph 1, December 24, 1862, from this office, as relates to Lieutenant R. McMullen, Thirty-fifth New York Volunteers, is hereby amended to read: First Lieutenant Richard R. McMullen.

By direction of the Secretary of War, so much of Special Orders No. 395, paragraph 14, December 15, 1862, from this office, as discharged First Lieutenant Richard R. McMullen, Thirty-fifth New York Volunteers, on account of disability, is hereby revoked, he having continued in service and been paid to December 20, 1862, the date of his discharge, for the same cause, by Special Orders No. 410, paragraph 1, December 24, 1862, amended by Special Orders No. 2, paragraph 7, January 4, 1869, both from this office.

By direction of the Secretary of War, so much of Special Orders No. 369, paragraph 6, Nov. 29, 1862, from this office, as discharged Second Lieutenant J. R. Walker, Thirty-sixth New York Volunteers, on account of disability, to date from Sept. 27, 1862, is hereby revoked, he having continued in service and been paid to Dec. 6, 1862, when he was discharged upon tender of resignation by Special Orders No. 87, paragraph 1, Dec. 6, 1862, from Headquarters Defences of Washington.

By direction of the Secretary of War, so much of Special Orders No. 395, paragraph 14, Dec. 15, 1862, from this office, as discharged Second Lieutenant Timothy Egan, Thirty-fifth New York Volunteers, on account of disability, is hereby revoked, he having continued in service and been paid to Dec. 29, 1862, when he was discharged for the same cause by Special Orders No. 419, paragraph 2, Dec. 29, 1862, from this office.

Permission to delay joining his regiment for twenty days, upon being relieved from duty at Cincinnati, Ohio, is hereby granted to Captain P. A. Owen, Ninth U. S. Infantry.

The pay of Second Lieutenant Charles H. Pettit, Second U. S. Cavalry, will be stopped until the United States be reimbursed in the amount of one hundred and eighty-eight dollars and fourteen cents, the amount of pay received by him from Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel R. D. Clarke, paymaster, on the October muster-rolls of Company G, Second U. S. Cavalry, for the following-named enlisted men of that company, who were absent on detached service at the time of payment, and which he has failed to turn over to them. The amounts so stopped will be turned over to the enlisted men in the amounts set opposite their respective names: William Hoffman, blacksmith, \$71 50; Marcus Long, private, \$58 71; Myles McDermott, private, \$57 93.

By direction of the Secretary of War, Brevet Major Henry B. Parry, assistant surgeon, will at once repair to New York City and report for examination to Brevet Major-General McDowell, president of the retiring board, convened by Special Orders No. 258, October 28, 1868, from this office.

By direction of the Secretary of War, Brevet Major-General J. J. Reynolds, colonel Twenty-sixth U. S. Infantry, is hereby relieved from duty as assistant commissioner of the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands for the State of Texas.

By direction of the Secretary of War Brevet Major-General E. R. S. Canby is hereby assigned to duty as assistant commissioner of the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands for the State of Texas.

Tuesday, January 5th.

The resignation of First Lieutenant Henry E. Luther, Eighteenth U. S. Infantry, has been accepted by the President, to take effect January 2, 1869, on condition that he receive no final payments until he shall have satisfied the Pay Department that he is not indebted to the United States.

To complete his record on the rolls, Assistant Surgeon Jansen T. Paine, Thirty-first Massachusetts Volunteers, is, by direction of the Secretary of War, hereby honorably discharged to date September 26, 1862, he having been mustered in as surgeon First Regiment Louisiana Native Guards, (Seventy-third United States Colored Troops), September 27, 1862. He will receive no final payments until he shall have satisfied the Pay Department that he is not indebted to the Government.

Leave of absence for two months on surgeon's certificate of disability is hereby granted Brevet Major Robert Avery, first lieutenant Forty-fourth U. S. Infantry, (Veteran Reserve Corps.)

The leave of absence granted Second Lieutenant W. H. Daugherty, Eighteenth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 218, December 9, 1868, from Headquarters Department of the Platte, is hereby extended forty days.

The leave of absence granted Second Lieutenant J. C. Castle, Twenty-first U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 227, December 10, 1868, from Headquarters First Military District, is hereby extended ten days.

Permission to delay joining his regiment, as directed by Special Orders No. 272, Paragraph 9, November 13, 1868, from this office, is hereby granted Brevet Major-

General Frank Wheaton, lieutenant-colonel Thirty-ninth U. S. Infantry, until the 16th instant.

Brevet Captain Charles E. Jewett, first lieutenant Tenth U. S. Infantry, will at once return to his post in the Department of Dakota, without waiting the expiration of his present extension of leave of absence, reporting his arrival by letter to the Commanding-General of the Department.

By direction of the Secretary of War, the Commanding-General Military Division of the Missouri will order Brevet Colonel R. I. Dodge, major Thirtieth U. S. Infantry, to repair to Memphis, Tennessee, for temporary duty, reporting by telegraph the date he will be there to the Adjutant-General of the Army, for instructions.

Wednesday, January 6th.

The Commanding General Military Division of the Pacific will, upon receipt of this order, convene a Board of Officers to examine and report upon the qualifications of First Sergeant Sanford Bradbury, Company L, Eighth U. S. Cavalry, for appointment as Second Lieutenant U. S. Army. The examination will be conducted as prescribed in General Orders No. 93, of 1867, from this office.

The leave of absence granted First Lieutenant W. S. Matson, Twenty-seventh U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 216, December 7, 1868, from Headquarters Department of the Platte, is hereby extended forty days.

The leave of absence granted Captain E. M. Coates, Thirtieth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 207, November 25, 1868, from Headquarters Department of the Platte, is hereby extended three months.

The resignation of First Lieutenant B. D. Critchlow, Twenty-second U. S. Infantry, has been accepted by the President, to take effect January 5, 1869, on condition that he receive no final payments until he shall have satisfied the Pay Department that he is not indebted to the United States.

Second Lieutenant William T. Ditch, First U. S. Cavalry, is hereby authorized to draw mileage from West Point, New York, to San Francisco, California, via the isthmus of Panama, for the journey performed in joining his regiment under General Orders No. 49, July 21, 1863, from this office, deducting the amount already paid him for mileage by the shortest mail route.

First Lieutenant John R. Eschenburg, Twenty-third U. S. Infantry, is hereby authorized to draw commutation of fuel and quarters at San Francisco, California, while before the Retiring Board, convened in that city by Special Orders No. 5, January 4, 1867, from this office, provided he is not furnished in kind or commutation therefor elsewhere.

By direction of the Secretary of War, the companies of Artillery on duty at the Artillery School, U. S. Army, Fort Monroe, Virginia, are hereby authorized to have, in addition to the First Sergeant, four sergeants and eight corporals, as allowed by law.

By direction of the Secretary of War, so much of Special Orders No. 359, Paragraph 4, November 22, 1862, from this office, as dropped the name of Assistant Surgeon Nordman, Twelfth New York Volunteers, from the rolls of the Army of the United States, is hereby revoked, there being no such officer in that regiment.

The leave of absence granted Brevet Major-General S. P. Heintzelman, colonel Seventeenth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 286, December 1, 1868, from this office, is hereby extended two months.

The telegraphic order of the 5th instant, from this office, directing Brevet Colonel Gurden Chapin, major Thirty-second U. S. Infantry, to repair to his home in Virginia, via the Isthmus of Panama, is hereby confirmed.

Thursday, January 7th.

Post Chaplain George P. Van Wyck will return, without delay, to Fort Harker, Kansas, and report to the commanding officer for duty.

First Lieutenant George P. Sherwood, Forty-second U. S. Infantry (Veteran Reserve Corps), is hereby relieved from duty in the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands in the State of Alabama, and will proceed, without delay, to join his regiment in the Department of the East.

Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel J. F. Grimes, captain Twenty-sixth U. S. Infantry, will report to Brevet Major-General Butterfield, superintendent general recruiting service New York City.

Brevet Brigadier-General Joseph H. Potter, lieutenant-colonel Thirtieth U. S. Infantry, will report for duty to Major-General Meade, commanding Department of the South.

The leave of absence-granted Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel R. F. O'Brien, captain Thirty-second U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 182, November 20, 1868, from Headquarters Military Division of the Pacific, is hereby extended four months.

The permission to delay joining his company granted Second Lieutenant E. H. Weirman, Fourth U. S. Artillery, in Special Orders No. 302, December 19, 1868, from this office, is hereby extended fifteen days.

Gerald Fitzgerald, superintendent of the National Cemetery at New Orleans, Louisiana, is transferred to Alexandria, Louisiana; and George B. Craft, superintendent of the National Cemetery at Alexandria, Louisiana, to New Orleans, Louisiana.

By direction of the Secretary of War, H. E. Paine, late brigadier-general U. S. Volunteers, is hereby authorized to draw commutation of fuel and quarters in this city from May 9, 1864, to June 29, 1864, while he was acting under verbal orders from the War Department, provided he is not furnished in kind or commutation therefor elsewhere.

Upon the recommendation of the surgeon-general, Assistant Surgeon Clarence Ewen, recently appointed, will report by letter to the commanding general and to the medical director Department of the Missouri, for assignment to duty.

By direction of the Secretary of War, Brevet Brigadier-General S. Burbank, colonel Second U. S. Infantry, is hereby relieved from duty as assistant commissioner and superintendent of schools of the Bureau of Refugees,

Freedmen and Abandoned Lands for the State of Kentucky.

By direction of the Secretary of War, Brevet Colonel B. P. Runkle, major Forty-fifth U. S. Infantry (Veteran Reserve Corps), is hereby assigned to duty as assistant commissioner and superintendent of schools of the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands for the State of Kentucky.

Friday, January 8th.

By direction of the Secretary of War, so much of Special Orders No. 205, Paragraph 5, August 25th, 1862, from this office, as dismissed Second Lieutenant F. W. Butler, Fifth New York Volunteers, is hereby revoked, there being no such officer in that organization.

Captain George T. Beall, medical storekeeper, Santa Fe, New Mexico, will repair to this city and report in person to the surgeon-general of the Army on business connected with the Medical Department. On the completion of this duty he will return to his proper station and resume his former duties.

Permission to delay joining his company for fifteen days, upon being relieved from duty in the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands, is hereby granted Second Lieutenant L. A. Nesmith, Twelfth U. S. Infantry.

The leave of absence granted First Lieutenant Constantine Chase, Third U. S. Artillery, in Special Orders No. 222, December 14, 1868, from Headquarters Department of the Platte, is hereby extended fifteen days.

Permission to delay compliance with so much of Paragraph 2, Special Orders No. 2, January 4, 1869, from this office, as directed him to report in person, without delay, to the commanding officer of his company, Fort Washington, Maryland, for duty, is hereby granted Second Lieutenant George A. Garretson, Fourth U. S. Artillery, for fifteen days.

The leave of absence granted Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel H. S. Schell, assistant surgeon, in Special Orders No. 212, December 2, 1868, from Headquarters Department of the Platte, is hereby extended ninety days.

Upon the recommendation of the surgeon-general, Assistant William H. King, (recently appointed), will report by letter to the commanding general and to the Medical Director Department of the Missouri, for assignment to duty.

A Board of Examination having found Assistant Surgeon Howard Culbertson "incapacitated for active service, and that said incapacity resulted from an attack of intermittent fever while on duty at Brown Hospital, Louisville, Kentucky, in June, 1866," the President directs that his name be placed upon the list of retired officers of that class in which the disability results from long and faithful service, or from some injury incident thereto, in accordance with Section 17, of the Act approved August 3, 1861.

Saturday, January 9th.

The resignation of Second Lieutenant Augustus F. Higgs, brevet first lieutenant, Sixteenth U. S. Infantry, has been accepted by the President, to take effect January 6, 1869, on condition that he receive no final payments until he shall have satisfied the Pay Department that he is not indebted to the United States.

The telegraphic order of the 8th instant, from this office, granting Brevet Colonel F. J. Crilly, assistant quartermaster, leave of absence pending action on his tender of resignation, is hereby confirmed.

The leave of absence granted First Lieutenant H. C. Sloan, Fourth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 213, December 3, 1868, from Headquarters Department of the Platte, is hereby extended forty days.

Permission to delay complying with Paragraph 1, Regimental Orders No. 1, January 4, 1869, from Headquarters Fourth U. S. Artillery, Fort McHenry, Maryland, is hereby granted Brevet Captain Edward Field, first lieutenant Fourth U. S. Artillery, for thirty days.

Monday, January 11th.

Upon the recommendation of the surgeon-general, Assistant Surgeon J. H. Kinsman, is hereby relieved from duty in the Department of California, and will proceed, via the Isthmus of Panama, to New York City. On his arrival in that city he will report by letter to the surgeon-general for assignment to duty.

By direction of the Secretary of War, Brevet Major-General Wager Swayne, colonel Forty-fifth Infantry (Veteran Reserve Corps), is hereby authorized to remain in this city until his examination before the sub-committee on the judiciary of the House of Representatives, charged with the investigation of the official conduct of Judge Busted, is concluded.

By direction of the Secretary of War, leave of absence for ninety days on surgeon's certificate of disability, with permission to go beyond sea and to apply for an extension of sixty days, is hereby granted First Lieutenant Henry M. Benson, Thirty-sixth U. S. Infantry.

Brevet Captain George S. Spalding, first lieutenant Thirty-third U. S. Infantry, is hereby authorized to remain in this city under the medical treatment of Brevet Colonel Basil Norris, surgeon, for sixty days.

The extension of leave of absence granted Second Lieutenant Robert S. Fletcher, Eighth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 311, December 31, 1868, from this office, is hereby further extended ten days.

List of officers reporting at Headquarters Department of the Missouri, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, week ending January 3, 1869: Edward Byrne, captain Tenth Cavalry, on special duty; W. J. Reed, first lieutenant Fifth Infantry, on special duty; J. R. Edie, brevet major and captain Ordnance Department, on special duty; D. L. Magruder, brevet lieutenant-colonel and surgeon Medical Department, returning from leave of absence; N. H. Davis, brevet brigadier-general and assistant inspector-general, reporting for duty; Edward H. Leib, brevet lieutenant-colonel and captain Fifth Cavalry, en route to join regiment in the field; M. R. Morgan, brevet brigadier-general and major Subistence Department, returning from special duty; A. E. Bates, first lieutenant and adjutant Second Cavalry, leave of absence from Department of the Platte.

PARAGRAPHS.

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL de Ros, of the British Army, has published a book called the "Young Officer's Companion," in which he tells us that Marshall Turenne, although the son of a sovereign Prince, and grandson of the great William of Orange, was never above the details of discipline. When he held the rank of captain he was as assiduous to fulfil his duties as when, later in life, he commanded the armies of France. He was in the habit of exercising his own company diligently, and never availed himself of those pretexts which his high rank might have warranted, to relax his attention; he excelled in the art of governing soldiers, even from his earliest youth; he spoke to them with kindness, reproved them with moderation, and corrected them with forbearance; he suffered among them no negligence or omission in their duty, no relaxation in their obedience to their officers; he encouraged them to exactitude, regularity, and to a brotherly regard for each other, of which he gave them an eminent example by the interest that he took in whatever concerned them, and the liberality which he displayed in the whole of his intercourse with them.

THE *London News* gives particulars of the recent submarine earthquake in the Atlantic. Captain Christie of the bark *Euphrosine*, relates that when his vessel was in latitude about 16 40 south, and longitude 4 west, the sky suddenly became overcast, with dense black-looking clouds, and in all directions was heard a noise resembling distant cannonading, while the sea became tossed and confused. The compass vibrated largely, and lost almost its polarity, a sure sign that a terrestrial disturbance of great extent and violence was in progress. Several large meteors shot out from the heavens, a phenomenon which can hardly be associated with the occurrence of submarine disturbance, unless we suppose that burning matter had been projected from some submarine volcano, and that the flying masses were mistaken by Captain Christie for meteoric bodies. The fish jumped out of the sea and struck against the sides of the ship, and the trembling of the vessel could be distinctly felt as well as heard. The volcanic action of the sea continued during the night until sunrise, when the weather became clear and settled.

THE ship *Dreadnought*, an East Indiaman, was recently taken into port, leaking badly from a small hole below the water-line. Her owners demanded the cost of repairs from the insurance company, claiming that the hole was made by a sword-fish. If it was not made by some external force, nothing can be collected. The insurance company answers that there is no instance on record in which a sword-fish, having punctured the side of a vessel, has escaped without leaving his sword in the hole. The plaintiffs prove that a few hours before the discovery of the leak, the crew had seen a very large sword-fish in the water, and had tried to capture it with lines and hooks. Prof. Owen delivered a scientific lecture on the sword-fish, from the witness box, during the trial. The sword of this fish, he said is the hardest bony material known; it has a sheath harder than the enamel of human teeth; within his personal experience, the sides of two ships have been pierced by this submarine stiletto; the blade was usually left in the wound, while the hilt, or in other words, the fish itself, broke away. He quoted examples of this wonderful weapon being driven through fourteen inches of copper sheathing, felt, deal and oak; his evidence simply demonstrated the enormous power of the formidable monster. In the case before him, Prof. Owen admitted that the fish, having passed its dagger through only three inches of wood, might possibly have withdrawn it. A precisely similar illustration was presented to him several years ago, except that the sword was broken, and actually stopped a leak which might otherwise have been fatal to the ship.

An English writer, Charles Wentworth Dilke, has recently published a book of travels in America, in which he shows what a little practical experience will do in revolutionizing a man's opinion of the Indians: "Dixon and I," he says, "both of us, left London with 'Lo, the poor Indian,' in all his dignity and hook-nosedness, elevated on a pedestal of nobility in our hearts. Our views were shaken in the East, but nothing revolutionized them so rapidly as our three days' risk of scalping on the Plains. John Howard and Mrs. Beecher Stowe themselves would go in for the western 'disarm at any price and exterminate if necessary' policy, if they lived long in Denver. One of the braves of Nevara's command brought in the scalp of a Cheyenne chief, taken by him last month, and to-day it hangs outside the door of a pawnbroker's shop, for sale, fingered by every passer by. Many of the band were engaged in putting on their paint, which was bright vermilion, with a little indigo round the eye. This, with the sort of pigtail they wear, gives them the look of the gnomes in the introduction to a London pantomime. One of them—Nevara himself, I was told—wore a sombrero, with three scarlet plumes, taken probably from a Mexican, a crimson jacket, a dark blue shawl, worn round the loins and over the arm in Spanish dancer fashion, and embroidered moccasins. His squaw was a vermilion-faced bundle of rags, not more than four feet high, staggering under buffalo hides, bow and arrows, and papoose. They move everywhere on horseback, and in the evening withdraw in military order, with advance and rear guard, to a camp at some distance from the town.

A WASHINGTON correspondent has been holding a conversation with a venerable negro, who has waited upon no end of great people from the era of Monroe down. This conversation was opened by appealing to the negro to tell the truth for once.

"You are a salaried liar, Cassius!" exclaims our frank correspondent. "You dodge and skulk for your master, swear he is not at home, keep away 'bores,' 'bag' cigars at his parties—I have watched you. You are a Washington servant—no worse than many grades of white politicians. It is a low life, Cassius."

"Mr. Finn," said Cassius, "you are severe!"

"Am I right?"

"You ben lookin' at me, sah!"

"Now, come! What are you colored people up to?" "Mr. Finn," said Cassius, "de laws of human nature are jus' de same! Skins may differ, as de poet says, but affection, or human nature, never varies. For de las' twenty years, de cullud people of de Deestreek have had ringleaders—intelligent men, who kep 'em advised. I was one of 'em. We chieftains could read, and we did read. We consulted. We found force (force) was out ob de question. We so advised our people. But we saw dat de Norf and Souf must go to war some day, and it was plain dat in some way we would get mixed up in de war. As to de end ob dat war, our hearts was troubled. We thought de Southern man would win. He was de fighting jackal. It proved contrariwise. But it was so ordered dat de black man's help was necessary. Dat necessity, sar, saved us, brought us out, and we air now on our pins. Mr. Finn, dere are mo' cullud people going to school now in de deestreek dan whites. In no cullud quarters or family is dere objection to schools. All is enthusiasm; de same cannot be said of Berks County, Pennsylvania, and some oder white deestreeks. Dere never was a people dat hungered and fustred for education like de American citizens of African descent."

"Mr. Finn, we're savin' money. De money puss controls. Dere are some tolabul rich men cullud men in de deestreek."

"Sar, we know what is impossible. As to socially pushin among white folks, it is not congenial to either color. As to marryin' into 'em, where is de use? A good mahogany face is to my mine de color ob de gole-paved streets. We can't prevent licentiousness altogether. Neither can you. Nature draws de dividin' line between de colors. Sometimes a nasty imagination will cross it from boff sides."

"Lassely, sar, it wouldn't improve your idee ob my sagacity to say dat I took cigars and brandy from my boss. Consider, sar, dat I don't do it. But if you want to pursue dese questions in social science farder, come to my house of a Sunday and I will give you a cigar quite as good as de boss's, and perhaps, by accident, de identical brand! De Lord dat created men wid inalienable rights, give 'em, also, inalienable perquisites."

ASYLUM FOR THE MEXICAN WAR VETERANS.

SENATOR Cole presented in the Senate yesterday a petition from Alex. M. Kenady, of San Francisco, agent in Washington of the Associated Veterans of the Mexican War, asking Congress to appropriate \$118,791 19, being the balance of a levy on the city of Mexico, in 1847, by General Scott, in lieu of pillage. The money was appropriated by Congress in 1850, to establish the Soldier's Home, and the fund for the support of that institution and other asylums connected with it has since accumulated to several millions of dollars. The petition shows that of this vast charity the originators derive no benefit whatever; that in the event of sickness or death occurring among the Mexican veterans, in many cases, relief for their necessities and decent burial depend on the contributions of their old companions in arms. He therefore prays Congress to either establish a branch asylum in California, under the direction of the society he represents, or so amend the laws governing the institution as to admit soldiers discharged at the close of the Mexican war on the same footing with those who have served continuously for twenty years. Accompanying the petition was an endorsement of General Grant, favoring the establishment of an asylum there, if it embraced soldiers also who fought in the late war for the suppression of the rebellion; a letter from General Horace Brooks, commanding Department of Washington, one from General F. T. Dent, (of General Grant's staff), and one from the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, who cordially endorse the movement of the Pacific coast veterans, although not connected with the association. The petition was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

BOSTON HARBOR.

MAYOR Shurtleff, of Boston, in his annual message, refers as follows to the improvement made by the general government in Boston Harbor:

The work under Major-General J. G. Foster has been carried on with much energy and success, as has also that on the sea-walls under the direction of Major-General H. W. Benham.

The south-west point of Lovell's Island has been dredged off, widening the channel-way, from its former width of three hundred and sixty-five feet, to six hundred and twenty-five feet, for a depth of eighteen feet. About 92,000 cubic yards have been dredged and removed to the dumping ground during the past year. The whole of the area thus dredged over is to be carried to a depth of twenty-three feet at mean low water, as soon as the appropriation asked for this year is made by Congress. A large and powerful machine of novel construction is now in the harbor ready for this work, being the only one at present available for dredging at so great a depth, in hard material, and at the same time leaving the bottom of an uniform level. The portion of this point thus dredged, and removed from the narrowest part of the narrows in the main channel, has already caused an increase in the current and column of the ebb tide which will prevent any further accumulation of debris at this point after being once removed.

Upon the opposite side of the channel, at this point, a large and excellent sea-wall of granite masonry has been commenced, for the purpose of protecting this exposed side of Gallop's Island from the encroachments of the waves that come from Broad Sound Channel, which have worn away the island to a large extent. The city of Boston presented to the United States the site of this wall and the use of the temporary buildings necessary for the use of the workmen. Three hundred and fifty feet of this wall have been constructed this season, and it will be completed as fast as funds become available. The sea-walls for the protection of Point Allerton and of Long Island Head will be commenced as soon as proper titles can be obtained to their sites.

The removal of Tower and Corwin Rocks, by blasting, to the depth of twenty-three feet at mean low water, has been one of the greatest improvements to the navigation of the channel by heavy vessels that have been made for many years. These rocks, situated near the middle of the channel between the Great Brewster Spit Light and Fort Warren and having only sixteen and eighteen feet of water upon them, were serious obstructions to navigation; and an examination of the rocks, by divers, disclosed the fact that their crevices were filled by copper and lead torn from the bottoms of vessels, also pieces of chains, anchors, planks, and portions of the keel of a vessel—thus indicating that many vessels must, in past times, have struck upon it. About 1,200 tons of rock have been blasted off, the greater part hoisted up, and deposited on shore. The channel at this point is now clear, and all vessels drawing twenty-three feet of water can now pass in safety, at low tide, directly over these rocks.

The dredging of the upper middle bar will be commenced at once, as the large dredge built for this purpose has arrived in the harbor, and is being put in order for the work.

FLOGGING IN THE BRITISH NAVY.

DR. STABLES, in his "Medical Life in the Navy," recently published in London, thus describes the flogging of a sailor, who had smuggled spirits aboard. Dr. Stables could not help pitying the poor fellow, who only feared the punishment for the shame it brought; so he filled out and offered the man a large measure of rum:

"Ah! sir," he said, with a wistful eye on the ruby liquid, "don't tempt me, sir. I can bear the bit o' flaying about that. I wouldn't have my messmates smell Dutch courage on my breath, sir. Thankee all the same, doctor." And he walked on deck and surrendered himself.

All hands had already assembled, the men and boys on one side, the officers, in cocked hats and swords, on the other. A grating had been lashed against the bulwark, and another placed on deck beside it. The culprit's shoulders and back were bared, and a strong belt fastened around the lower part of the loins for protection. He was then firmly tied by the hands to the upper, and by the feet to the lower grating; a little basin of cold water was placed at his feet; and all was now prepared. The sentence was read, and orders were given to proceed with the punishment.

The cat is a terrible instrument of torture; I would not use it on a bull unless in self-defence. The shaft is about a foot and a half long, and covered with green or red baize, according to taste; the thongs are nine, about twenty-eight inches in length, of the thickness of a goose-quill, and with two knots on each. Men describe the first blow as like a shower of molten lead. Combining out the thongs with his five fingers before each blow, firmly and determinedly was the first dozen delivered by the bo'swain's mate, and as unflinchingly received. Then, "One dozen, sir, please," he reported, saluting the commander.

"Continue the punishment," was the calm reply.

A new man and a new cat. Another dozen reported: again the same reply. Three dozen. The flesh, like burning steel, had changed from red to purple, and blue, and white; and between the third and fourth dozen, the suffering wretch, pale enough now, and in all probability sick, begged a comrade to give him a mouthful of water. There was a tear in the eye of the hardy sailor who obeyed him, whispering as he did so—"Keep up, Bill; it'll soon be over now."

"Five, six," the corporal slowly counted—"seven, eight." It is the last dozen, and how acute must be the torture! "Nine, ten." The blood comes now fast enough, and—yes, gentle reader, I will spare your feelings.

The man was cast loose at last and put on the sick-list: he had borne his punishment without a groan and without moving a muscle. A large pet monkey sat crunching nuts in the rigging, and grinning all the time, I have no doubt he enjoyed the spectacle immensely, for he was only an ape.

THE official work on the "Seven Weeks' War," which the Austrian staff have been busy preparing ever since 1866 has now reached its third volume, the first part of which is just published. In noticing it, the *Nation* says: "It contains some interesting particulars of the events immediately preceding Sadowa. Poor Marshal Benedek, old, out-fought, out-generalled, beaten at all points—a 'captain famous for fight,' and all at once bewilderingly foiled—was 'thoroughly discouraged'; he had lost all confidence in 'himself, his *entourage*, his army,' and the cause for which he had been fighting. On the 1st of July he wrote to the Emperor: 'I beg your Majesty most strongly to make peace at any price; a catastrophe for the army is inevitable.' The Emperor had nothing to reply to this but to recommend a retreat in the best possible order, and to say that to make peace was then impossible. On the 2d of July Benedek felt more hopeful. It would seem that on the previous day, in retreating, he found his army trains blocking up his roads, and fully perceived that the attack which he feared and expected that the Prussians would make would be his entire ruin. It is little wonder that the feelings of the old man, who knew that on his shoulders rested the fate of an historic monarchy, proved too much for his coolness and power of self-control. At noon of the 2d he called a meeting of general officers in his tent, but told them nothing at all of his plans, and his subordinates left him with no notion as to when or where the battle would take place. It is probable that he did not know himself. It was three o'clock on the morning of the 3d before the plan of battle was given to the commanders. This official report—as is no more than is natural, and perhaps is true—pronounces it to have been very defective, and the main cause of the defeat of the Austrians."

THE TEMPLE FORTRESSES OF EGYPT.

We extract the following from Dr. Bellows's interesting book of travels entitled "The Old World in its New Face":

Dendera, from being the first of the temples we visited, and from its unusual state of preservation, made an extraordinary impression upon us. As you approach over a desert of sand and the crumbled debris of the old city of Tentyris, the spot where the Egyptians built the abode of Athor (the Greek Aphrodite,) your heart beating with the excitement of a first introduction to an Egyptian temple, you come almost suddenly (on account of mounds of sand cutting off the prospect,) upon the view of a portico supported by four rows of six columns each, and such columns as fairly break down all previous anticipations by their vastness and splendor! Eight feet in diameter, and thirty-two feet in height, with capitals of a composite order, in which the circular head is set round with flowers and interlaced leaves, they present the most magnificent introduction to Egyptian temple architecture. The pillars, indeed, are crowded too near together, and the vice of Egyptian architecture as well as its characteristic grandeur—too much matter to serve the object for which it is brought together, too many columns to support the roof, too much solidity for any required purpose of security or stablesness—is thus at once brought before you. Beyond the portico opens a hall of six columns with three rooms on either side; next succeeds a central chamber, opening on one side into two small rooms and on the other communicating with a staircase so low in its angles, so straight and long in its flight, and so beautifully adorned with intaglio figures, that of itself it holds your attention and brings you back to it again and again. Then comes another chamber with two rooms on one side and one on the other, which opens on the adytum or sanctuary, which has a special architecture in its isolated position, and is a kind of temple within a temple. A passage leads entirely round it and opens on three small rooms on each side. The total length of the temple is 220 feet, the front is 115 feet, and the sides incline toward each other so that the back wall is only 82 feet wide. This was, as we afterward found, a universal feature of the temples. They artificially increased the perspective effect by narrowing the successive chambers in a suite, which were so arranged as to allow a view quite from the rear to the front and from the front to the sanctuary.

Usually an outer wall of unburnt brick, of great thickness and strength, surrounded the whole temple, making it still more what its mighty and inaccessible walls, smooth and unbroken, had already rendered it—a fortress. And this became more clear as we saw more and more of these temples—that the early form of government in Egypt must have been strictly hierarchical, and the pontiff the original king; that the temples were literally the citadels of priestly power, the places from which they overawed and governed the people; and that, after Menes's time, the kingly office, though distinct in some theoretic way from the priestly, was built upon the religious affections and fears of the people as at this day in Russia the Czar is the head of the Greek Church, and in Turkey the Sultan the head of the Moslem faith. But in Egypt, warlike as the country was, its cities were without walls. Spite of Homer's hundred-gated Thebes, Thebes had no walls, and Homer, if he did any thing but guess, must have mistaken the gates of her temples for the gates of the city. But the temples, as I have said, were really military fortresses, large enough to receive and protect the whole population in case of invasion, and strong enough, as once happened, to resist for three years the whole military force of the monarch when Thebes revolted against his authority. The tremendous strength and vastness of these structures is thus, at least in part, accounted for. The inside of the great and of the small chambers at Dendera, the surface of the columns, the outer wall, each and every part of the structure is covered with hieroglyphics and sculptures—either very low bas-reliefs or else intaglio work. These sculptures are the forms of the gods and goddesses—of Osiris, Isis, and Horus (the great Egyptian Trinity); of the monarch who built or added to the temple; of illustrations of his history and warlike adventures; or of matters, as here in Dendera, pertaining strictly to Athor, who represents the maternal principle at Dendera, as Isis does at most other temples, and who is sculptured here numberless times nursing a young child, who is said in the hieroglyphics to be her son. His name was Ehcou, and he is the third member of the local triad, as Harpocrates was of Isis and Osiris.

MOSLEM VIGOR IN THE MIDDLE AGES.

Acre is nothing but a fortress, every thing else being strictly subordinated to the military service of the place. It, as every body knows, owes its chief interest to the part it played in the Crusades during the two centuries from about A. D. 1100 to 1300, when "the world's debate" was going on touching the relative claims of the Moslem Crescent and the Christian Cross to rule in the earth. Here those great knights, Baldwin and Philip Augustus and Richard Cœur de Lion, planted the standard of the Red Cross, and here Saladin, their equal in chivalry and in sincerity, gave them proofs that faith in the Arabian prophet had a fearful vigor in its mailed hand. Here flocked the noble representatives of all the Christian powers of Europe to uphold the trembling banner of our faith, whose insecurity then, from the confident and chivalrous cimeters of the Moslem, it is very hard for the victorious spirit of our modern Christian civilization to do justice to.

Those who imagine that a zeal for the rescue of the Sepulchre and the holy places was the chief cause of the Crusades, will change their opinion when they get a near view of the Moslem faith, and see even its present power to blast the regions over which it spreads. Its vigor in the middle ages was immense, as the monuments of its military and its religious pomp and power, now in ruins all over Egypt, Syria, and Turkey, fully attest. Christian civilization did right to fear it, and to withstand it with all its might, and the best way to withstand it was to carry the war into the enemy's country.

The Crusades, whose vast traces are left in a thousand ruins along the Syrian coast, were a magnificent outburst of half-terrified, half-insulted Christendom in behalf of its own altars, seriously threatened with desolation from a hateful rival faith, none the less dreaded because a parody of Jewish and Christian dogmas, with their characteristic spirit, turned backward. Acre was the centre of Christian strength in the Holy Land. In a beautiful bay, just half way between Carmel and the Scala Tyriorum, or Stairs of Tyre, it looks across a broad and fertile plain of sixteen miles' length and eight or ten miles' breadth to the hills of Galilee. In the Crusading times it was a mighty, and deemed to be an impregnable fortress, and was nearly the last place which the Christian powers surrendered to the Mussulman. Even now it is in good condition as a fortress, and might offer a strong resistance to modern weapons, were its armament equal to its walls, which show as much engineering skill as is commonly seen in European works. But its cannon are terribly rusty, and exhibit signs of long neglect. Unpainted guns and rickety carriages are fit images of the decaying vigor of the Turkish empire, and it is safe to say that Acre could not, with its present armament, resist a single ship of war, under any European flag, for a day. How different from the day when the flower of Christendom for thirty-three days stood the siege of the Sultan Melik, who basely put its brave defenders, conquered by irresistible power, to the sword! Five hundred Knights of St. John then held out in the citadel after the walls had all been taken, until only fifteen were left alive.

THE NATIONAL GUARD.

TWENTY-SECOND REGIMENT.—A battalion drill of this regiment was held at the regimental armory on Monday evening, the 11th inst. Lieutenant-Colonel Remmey was in command, and was ably assisted by Acting Adjutant Tate. There were present eight commands, with a detail of twelve files. The following were the principal movements executed during the evening: Double column at half distance; deploy into line; advance into line of battle; form square, forward on the centre; reduction of square; Manual. The men were very attentive and steady during the drill; some few mistakes were committed. The advance into line of battle was very finely executed, and, as a whole, the drill was creditable to the commanding officer and men. The regiment have now been holding three battalion drills a week for the past few weeks, and it is really astonishing what an effect it has on the men; all of them taking the greatest interest in the matter, and turning out at drills in full numbers. The regiment has vastly improved in proficiency; and it is expected that at the exhibition drill to be given on the 19th inst. before the State Military Association, that they will astonish the "natives."

At the conclusion of the drill on Monday evening last, an entertainment was provided at the room of Company B, in honor of the election of Lieutenant-Colonel Remmey and Quartermaster Rogers as honorary members of the company. A fine collation was served, after which Captain Cullen welcomed the "honorable" into the company. The pleasant entertainment closed with the best of feeling on all sides. The details of this regiment ordered for drill by General Orders No. 1, have been ordered to assemble at headquarters on Tuesday, 19th inst. The ladies accompanying the detail will be provided with seats in the Eighteenth street balcony. The detail for guard duty is also announced. Lieutenant Franklin is officer of the guard.

FOURTEENTH REGIMENT.—A brilliant assemblage gathered on Monday evening, the 11th inst., at the spacious and elegant City Assembly Rooms, Brooklyn, to take active part in the reunion and ball of the officers and members of this regiment. Despite the unpleasant state of the weather and short public notice the gathering was large, and of a most select character. The rooms were devoid of any decorations, with the exception of the regimental colors, emblazoned with the names of the battles in which the regiment had taken part, which were hung over the platform opposite the main entrance to the floor; this platform also contained a case containing the grim and battle torn flags, which the brave "boys" had carried through many a fierce engagement, thus making them sacred in memory and lasting in honor; knapsacks were also displayed in various portions of the rooms, all of which had a tendency to relieve the otherwise bareness of the walls. The ball opened shortly before 10 o'clock, and as the gay couples fell in for the promenade, the scene, as viewed from the gallery, was truly beautiful. Dancing was now fairly begun. Many of the officers and invited guests, among whom were Brevet Major-General Doubleday, ex-Major-General H. B. Duryea, late commander Second division N. G.; Lieutenant-Colonel Dakin, of Thirtieth Infantry, and others, adjourned, by special invitation of Brevet Brigadier-General Fowler, to the supper room, where a collation had been prepared; after which toasts were introduced, and speeches followed in order by Generals Doubleday, Fowler, Duryea, Lieutenant-Colonel Dakin, Majors Schurig and McNeill, Captains McLeer, Harnicle, and others. General Doubleday, in a conversational manner, gave his recollections of the Fourteenth in the war, which was listened to with pleasing attention. Captain Harnicle, in a characteristic speech blending eloquence with wit, gave the war personnel of the officers present. Thus, with the pleasant introductory speeches of Captain McLeer, the hours passed in a social manner, whose pleasant interruptions were the lively strains from Connor's excellent band, and the light steps of the dancers in the adjoining room. The toilets of the ladies were elegant; the management of the ball admirable; and the following committees most efficient: Reception Committee—Colonel E. B. Fowler, Brevet Colonel J. L. Farley, Major Schurig, Major J. McNeill, Captain R. Cardona, Captain J. McLeer, Lieutenants B. Steen, W. Foskett, W. H. Campbell; Floor Manager—Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. De Boeise; Floor Committee—Captain F. Doyle, Lieutenants J. F. Young, S. Hawthorne, T. Fagan, Drum-Major P. H. Colgan, Sergeants J. Long, J. Farrell, J. R. Chisum, J. J. Dixon, A. Jameson, T. C. Smith, Corporals D. Brennan, H. Schnepf, Privates C. L. Zollinsky, J. Roker; Colonel Fowler, Major Schurig and Lieutenant Steen, of the reception committee, being particularly attentive. We presume that this regiment has more empty sleeves among its officers than any other organization of the National Guard.

The regiment took active part in the following battles: Bull Run, Bann's Hill (severe skirmish), Falmouth, Spottsylvania Court-house, August, '62, Rappahannock Station, Sulphur Springs, Gainesville, Groveton, Manassas Plains, Chantilly, South Mountain, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Port Royal, Fitchburg Crossing, Chancellorsville,

Seminary Hill, Gettysburg, Mine Run, Wilderness, Laurel Hill and Spottsylvania Court-house—in all, twenty-two severe engagements, in which they lost in killed, wounded and missing over 500 officers and men. The record of the Fourteenth for bravery in the field was excellent, and we should like to see such a regiment with full ranks in the National Guard; but it is always uphill work to infuse the veteran element into the ranks of our Militia; the men, after long service in the field, never take the right interest, and very seldom make good National Guardsmen.

FORTY SEVENTH REGIMENT.—Drills by wing of this regiment were held at the State Arsenal, Brooklyn, on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings last. On Tuesday evening the drill of the right wing, composed of Companies D, F, B and A, took place. The battalion was divided into four commands of fourteen files front. Lieutenant-Colonel Geary being in command, assisted by Adjutant Orton. After going through the formality of a dress parade, the command was exercised in the manual of arms, which was not up to that standard which we expected of this command. The following are a few of the movements: Fours right and left; marching company front; column of fours break from the right to march to the left; column of fours break from the left to march to the right; by company, break from the right to march to the left, and from the left to the right; battalion closed in mass; head of column take wheeling distance, to the right close column by division; close column by second division right in front; deployments, etc. The wheelings were excellent, but some of the other movements were not quite up to the standard we have set for this fine regiment. Lieutenant-Colonel Geary displayed a full understanding of his duties; considering that this was the first occasion of his exercising the battalion, he deserves great credit. We noticed present, toward the close of the drill, the Colonel and Major of the regiment, in citizens' clothing. Brigadier-General Meserole, commanding the Eleventh Brigade, was also present, and at the conclusion of the drill, made a few telling remarks to his old command. A drill of the left wing, composed of Companies C, E, G and I, was held at the same place on Wednesday evening. The battalion was divided into four commands of twelve files front. Colonel Austin was in command, Major Rogers and Adjutant Orton also being present. This wing was exercised in nearly the same movements as the right on the previous evening, and were about equal in proficiency in the manual and movements. Colonel Austin is one of the best of instructors and has an able assistant in Major Rogers. These were the first battalion drills of this regiment for the season, and we expect to see a marked improvement in those that follow. They labor under a disadvantage, from the fact that the regimental armory has not for the past two years been in a safe condition for exercising the command.

FIFTH REGIMENT.—At an election held at the armory of this regiment on Friday evening, the 8th inst., Corporal Krumwiede was elected second lieutenant of Company H, vice Gartelmann, resigned. Drills by division will be commenced in this regiment early in February; also officer's drill. Colonel Meyer has decided to abolish regimental drills this season, in consequence of the members of the regiment being entirely without overcoats, and, as a matter of course, unable to attend drills at the State Arsenal. We have spoken of this on other occasions, and it is a matter of surprise that this fine organization, one of the largest and best in the division, should suffer from this neglect by the State authorities. No less than three requisitions have been made for overcoats, and, as we understand, the reply has invariably been "No funds." The wants of the Fifth regiment have been comparatively few, and we cannot understand why this matter has been neglected. We hope our new adjutant-general will look after the old Fifth in this and other matters. Company A, Captain Meyer commanding, will hold a military and fancy dress ball at the Germania Assembly Rooms on the 10th of February next. This company is one of the largest in the regiment, and the ball will, no doubt, be a pleasant affair.

THIRD REGIMENT (BENDIX ZOUAVES).—The following order has been issued by Brevet Brigadier-General J. E. Bendix, commanding regiment: This regiment will assemble for drill and instruction (in fatigue dress), at the regimental armory, on Monday, the 18th inst., and Thursday, the 11th day of February prox. Line will be formed at 8 o'clock p. m. Field and staff will report to the commandant; non-commissioned staff and drum corps, to the acting adjutant, at 7½ o'clock p. m. Roll call of companies at 7¼ o'clock p. m., precisely. The commandant trusts that every member will be present. None but members of the regiment (in uniform) will be admitted. Commissary-Sergeant Wright and Orderly Sergeant Willgoos will take charge of the door, and admit none who are not in uniform. The following division drills are ordered: Companies C and K, on Wednesdays, January 27th, and February 3d, 10th, 17th and 24th; E and I, on Mondays, January 18th and 25th, and February 1st, 8th, 15th and 22d; D, B and G, on Fridays, January 22d and 29th, and February 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th. Brevet Colonel Beattie will superintend said division drill. Line will be formed on each occasion at 8 o'clock p. m. The following resignations having been accepted by the commander-in-chief, viz.: Surgeon E. Guernsey, Adjutant L. R. Wells and Commissary W. H. Gray; they are hereby honorably discharged. First Lieutenant R. S. Groves is hereby appointed acting adjutant, until further orders.

TWELFTH INFANTRY.—Colonel John Ward, commanding this regiment, has issued the following order: So much of paragraph 2, General Orders No. 1, current series, as relates to wing drill of January 19th, is hereby countermanded. Companies B, K, A, G and E will assemble, in fatigue uniform (with leggings), at the State Arsenal, corner Seventh avenue and Thirty-fifth street, on Friday evening, 29th inst., for battalion drill. Roll call of companies at 7¼ o'clock.

A rumor has come to our notice that Company E, of this regiment, has become dissatisfied, and is agitating the question of applying for a transfer to the Twenty-second regiment. The only information that we can gain on this subject is that their recent brilliant exhibition drill did not meet with the encouragement from the other companies of the Twelfth that they expected, and a feeling has thereby been excited in Company E which is shaping itself toward what appears to us to be a most hasty and ill-advised step. We trust that this may prove to be a mere rumor, and that if it should have any foundation, the members will take counsel of their cooler judgment and consider the consequences of such a step.

FIRST REGIMENT CAVALRY.—The twentieth annual ball of Troop K, Captain Fischer commanding, took place at the Union Assembly Rooms, corner of Elizabeth and Grand streets, on Thursday evening, January 7, 1869. The affair was well attended, and resulted in an entire success, giving great satisfaction to all interested. Captain Fischer, Lieutenants Knebel, Eselgroth and Crome headed the committee, who were ably sustained in their duties by others of the troop. Among the guests were Colonel Brinker, Lieutenant-Colonel Ittner, Majors Madé and Schultz, Captains Keller,

Hamm, Kuntz and Landwehr, Lieutenants Able, Fleischl, Isenmann, Aery, Richers and Korner, of the First Cavalry, and Captain Lambert, of the Third Cavalry. When the ball broke up it was nearer dawn than midnight. An election for officers in troop B, of this regiment, took place at the armory, in Broadway, corner of Forty-seventh street, on Monday evening, January 4, 1869, Colonel Henry Brinker presiding. William H. Conrady was elected first lieutenant and Jacob Lang second lieutenant.

SEVENTY-FIRST REGIMENT.—The gold medal, of elegant design, recently offered by ex-Quartermaster George W. Roosevelt as an incentive for recruiting, to be annually awarded to the company that shall show the largest number of enlistments, from inspection to inspection, and to be worn by that member who has recruited, individually, the largest number, has been awarded to Captain Wise, of Company I, he and his command having recruited thirteen men. Company G came next in order, having recruited twelve men, which makes the old saying true "that a miss is as good as a mile."

Colonel Theo. W. Parmelee, commanding this regiment, has issued an order discontinuing the class drills, and resuming the usual weekly drills, on and after the 18th inst. The colonel returns his thanks to the officers and men for their prompt and hearty co-operation in these drills; the object (uniformity in the method of instruction) having been obtained, he no longer wishes to tax their time. Wm. E. Rache has been elected second lieutenant.

Company E, Seventy-first regiment (American Guard), will give a ball at Irving Hall, Thursday evening, 28th inst.

SECOND BRIGADE.—The decision in the case of First Lieutenant Henry Klattbaar, of Company D, Ninety-sixth regiment, tried by special Court-martial of this brigade, of which Major O'Grady, of First Artillery, was president, has been rendered, and the accused found guilty of all the charges and specifications, and sentenced to be cashiered and disqualified from holding office in the Militia of the State. The principal charge against the accused was disobedience of orders and resistance to his superior officer while under arms on the 4th of July last.

TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT.—At an election held January 12th to fill the office of captain in Company K, made vacant by the resignation of Captain James G. Gregory (now adjutant), Lieutenant H. H. Hognis was chosen to fill the position; Sergeant William S. Leaman was elected first lieutenant, vice Hognis, promoted. Colonel Rodney C. Ward presided. At the annual election of this company the following civil officers were chosen: Chairman—Charles W. Maxfield; Vice-Chairman—Robert P. Lyon; Recording Secretary—George T. Lane; Treasurer—William B. Boorum; President of Court-martial—Lieutenant H. H. Hognis; Finance Committee—E. A. Vaughn, E. H. Greene, William M. Moore, John S. Bergen, G. A. Wessman; Committee on Recruits—Caleb W. Davis, Henry Taylor, E. A. Vaughn. The following were appointed: Clerk of Court-martial—E. H. Greene; Committee on Arms and Uniforms—John K. Smith, Robert P. Lyon, G. G. Gregory.

The twenty-first annual ball of Troop G, First regiment Cavalry, Captain A. Hamm commanding, took place at the Germania Assembly Rooms, Nos. 291 and 293 Bowery, on Tuesday evening, January 12, 1869. The ball was largely attended by the friends of the troop, the dancing and music was good, and the supper was excellent—all of which made the affair thoroughly successful. Wagner's band furnished the music. Among the guests were Colonel Brinker, Lieutenant-Colonel Ittner, Majors Madden and Schultz, Captains Fischer, Keller, Landwehr, and Wieser; also, Lieutenants Fleischl, Ael, Clawson, and Lamb, besides many others. Captain Hamm, as usual, was very hospitable toward his guests, and did all in his power to make them happy and contented.

THE NEW ARMY IN BROOKLYN, E. D.—We referred, a few weeks ago, to the new armory to be built in Brooklyn, E. D. The building of this much-needed structure, we are glad to say, has now commenced. Its site is on the corner of the Bushwick Boulevard and Stagg street. It is to be built in the early English Gothic style, and of Philadelphia brick and Dorchester stone, resting upon a granite base four feet in height. The drill-room will be upon the first floor, and will be 80 by 94 feet, 35 feet in height, and with a direct entrance on the Boulevard. We shall recur to this structure again, and discuss the new armory in connection with the general and important subject of armories.

THE GUIDON COMPETITION.—From the general appearance of matters as they now stand, it looks as if the competition for the guidons offered by the State Military Association will not take place this season. The Eleventh and the Twenty-second regiments of the First Division are the only regiments that have entered the "military arena," and, up to our going to press, we understand that neither of the commandants of these regiments have received a reply to their letters of entry from the officers composing the board in this division. The issue of the circulars was too long delayed, and we presume the competition will now be postponed until late in the spring.

FIRST DIVISION.—We observe that some of the New York papers have fallen into the error of supposing that Major-General Shaler is the author of the recent orders making such radical changes in the First and Third Cavalry, the First Artillery, and the Washington Greys. These orders were issued from General Headquarters at Albany, and simply passed through General Shaler's headquarters, and were promulgated by him to the troops under his command in the usual course, as was also the order suspending their operation.

The twenty-eighth annual invitation ball of Battery B, First regiment Artillery, Captain John Keim commanding, took place at the Germania Assembly Rooms, Nos. 291 and 293 Bowery, on Monday evening, January 11, 1869. Kiseberth's band had been engaged for the occasion. The affair was attended by about one hundred and fifty couples. Among the guests were Lieutenant-Colonel Dhicl, Captains Benson, Kleim, Heubner, and Schilling; also, Lieutenants Hoelzie, Viz, Walsh, Kohler, and Heldt, besides many others. The committee of arrangements were Captain John Keim, Lieutenants Bauer, Jungbecker, and Kasschau, assisted by several others of the company. Lieutenant Kasschau also had charge of the floor, which was well managed.

The ninth annual ball of Company I, Fifth regiment, Captain A. Keim commanding, took place on Monday evening, January 11th, at the New York Casino, corner of Houston and Mott streets. In spite of the severe storm which took place on that evening, there were none the less present at the ball, and the evening was passed in gaiety and mirth by the large number who attended. Through the exertions of Captain Keim, Lieutenants Eldt, Disch, and others of the committee, the affair proved a decided success. Among the guests we noticed Adjutant Smith, Captains Ertz and Kroeger, of the Fifth, and Captains Heubner and Hoelzie and Lieutenant Fischer, of the First Artillery. The Fifth regiment band furnished the music for the occasion.

SACRED CONCERT.—A grand invitation sacred concert of the Twelfth regiment band (J. G. Otto, leader), took place on Sunday evening, January 10, 1869, at the Fifth regiment armory, No. 168 Hester street (Metropolitan Rooms). The concert commenced at eight o'clock, and was well attended. The programme was well selected and the music excellent. The New York Veteran Singing Association were present and rendered valuable assistance.

MILITARY ENTERPRISE.—We notice that a cotemporary, in its issue of the 10th inst., states that the ball of the Lindsey Blues at Irving Hall on Thursday was a grand success, despite the neighboring ball of the Americans Club at the Academy. Inasmuch as the ball of the Lindsey Blues did not come off until a week later (14th inst.) the above notice may be considered quite flattering. Another cotemporary states that Colonel Post, of the Twenty-second regiment, "had tendered his resignation, to take place immediately." Colonel Post, to our knowledge, tendered his resignation as far back as September last.

NINETY-SIXTH REGIMENT.—For some time past trouble has existed in the drum corps of this regiment, which we are pleased to learn has now been settled. The members of the corps have been tried by Court-martial, some fined, and all dismissed from the regiment. A new drum corps is in process of organization by Drum-Major Gunsel. A drill of the right wing of this regiment took place on Thursday, the 7th inst., at the State Arsenal. A battalion drill is also ordered at same place on the 21st inst.

FIFTY-FIFTH REGIMENT.—A battalion drill of this regiment took place at the State Arsenal, on Monday, the 11th inst. The newly-elected colonel, Wm. B. Allen, was in command, and exercised the regiment in a few battalion movements. The regiment was far from being up to the standard, men and officers showing a decided lack in a knowledge of the tactics. Colonel Allen has much work before him, and we hope soon to be able to give a better account of his regiment. It is stated that Colonel Allen intends appointing his new adjutant from the Seventh regiment.

ELEVENTH BRIGADE.—A Court-martial has been ordered, to consist of Major Joseph C. Harding, of the brigade staff, for the trial of delinquents in the Howitzer battery of this brigade. The court will convene at the headquarters of the battery, No. 9 Court street, Brooklyn, on Wednesday, January 27, 1869, at 8 o'clock P. M., and adjourn from time to time as may be necessary.

CAPTAIN JAMES FAIRBRIEVE, recently appointed aide-de-camp on the staff of the general commanding First division, served with distinction during the late war. He was captain in the First New York Mounted Rifles, and for a long time aide to Major-General Wistar.

EIGHTH REGIMENT.—The non-commissioned officers of this regiment are ordered to assemble at the armory on Wednesday evenings, at 7 o'clock P. M., commencing January 15th, in fatigue jacket, cap body belt and bayonet sheath, until further orders.

Company E, Eighth regiment, will give their annual soiree at the regimental armory, on Tuesday evening, 20th inst.

THIRD REGIMENT CAVALRY.—The first annual ball of this regiment will take place at Central Hall, Nos. 37 and 39 Bowery, on the evening of January 26th. The invitation tickets are very handsome, particularly the ladies' ticket, which bears a capital medallion head of Colonel Budke.

THIRTEENTH REGIMENT.—The reception of the Brooklyn City Guard (Company G, Thirteenth regiment) will take place at the Assembly Rooms, Academy of Music, on the evening of Thursday, 21st inst.

BALLS TO COME OFF.

The third annual ball of Company K, Fifth regiment, Captain H. Scharch commanding, takes place at the Union Assembly Rooms, Nos. 103 to 107 Elizabeth street, on Tuesday evening, January 19, 1869.

The second annual ball of Battery K, First regiment Artillery, Captain John N. Heubner commanding, takes place at the Germania Assembly Rooms, No. 291 Bowery, on Wednesday evening, February 3, 1869.

The twenty-fourth annual ball of Battery C, First regiment Artillery, Captain William Schilling commanding, will take place on Monday evening next, the 18th inst., at the National Assembly Rooms, Nos. 334 to 344 West Forty-fourth street.

The second annual ball of Troop B, First regiment Cavalry, Captain George Landwehr commanding, will take place on Wednesday evening, January 20, 1869, at the National Assembly Rooms, in Forty-fourth street, between Eighth and Ninth avenues.

The first annual complimentary ball of Troop D, First regiment Cavalry, will also take place at the above rooms, on Wednesday, February 3, 1869.

OTHER STATES.

HARTFORD, CONN.—The Buckingham Rifles, of Hartford, have been fitting up a new armory, which was dedicated on the 8th of January by an invitation dancing assembly. The armory proper is in a room 50 by 28 feet in the third story of Harbison's block, and extending the whole length of the front. It is high, well lighted, and the walls and ceiling finished in neutral tints lightened up by a gold moulding. Along the east side of the armory and nearly its entire length, runs the arm rack, which is of black walnut and chestnut, raised about four feet. Underneath are closets for uniforms and equipments, with doors and framework of chestnut and black walnut. The room is also furnished with rich black walnut furniture, a splendid regulator clock, handsomely adorned with the arms of the company, and a handsome bronze chandelier, and is covered with a fine carpet. Handsome pictures adorn the walls. The stairs are to be covered with matting. The company drills and dances in the hall on the second floor, which is one of the neatest dancing halls in the city, and makes an excellent drill room. Altogether the rifles have one of the best arranged armories in the State. The rifles held their annual meeting on the 5th, and elected the following civil officers: Wilbur Lambert, secretary; Charles Taylor, financial secretary; Thomas Galvin, treasurer; Captain Joseph H. Barnum, Sergeant James W. Camp and James Taylor, executive committee.

The Governor of Michigan, in his annual report, thus refers to the militia matters in that State:

The alacrity with which the people of the country responded to the calls of the Government when its existence was threatened by Rebellion, is good evidence that no large standing army is required in a well regulated Republican Government. I do not favor large and expensive State organizations, but while we depend in the main upon citizen soldiery for protection in cases of necessity, I am of the opinion that a proper and wisely economical system for the encouragement of State troops, or Militia, should receive the sanction and support of the Legislature. At the present time the entire Militia of the State consists of three companies of infantry, organized as State troops. It is not improbable that our laws for the organization of the military force of the State might be somewhat improved, so as to encourage a proper military spirit among the people, without adding in any degree to the expense of the system. Repeated applications have been made to me since the close of the war for the formation of military companies; but owing to the want

of means, and in the absence of the necessary appropriations for carrying out the present law, I have not favored the organization of such companies. The present system is, and I have no doubt will continue to be, a dead letter upon our statute book. In view, therefore, of the importance of this subject, I would most respectfully submit to your wisdom and discernment whether some system cannot be adopted, which will be practical in its operations, and adequate for any probable future emergency.

The Governor of Illinois states in his annual message that, by the death of Adjutant-General I. N. Haynie, the office became vacant, and its duties devolved upon Assistant Adjutant-General E. P. Niles. It was not thought advisable to appoint a successor. The work of the office has been completed, as far as the publication of the voluminous reports are concerned, and it is recommended that, while it should not be abolished, its pay should be cut down to correspond with its now light duties—such as preserving records and furnishing occasionally asked for information at the War Department in Washington.

A DINNER was recently given by the Independent Cadets, at the Parker House, Boston, at which his Excellency Governor Bullock presided, and the company at the tables included nearly all the heads of the departments, Mayor Shurtleff, Major-General Foster, Adjutant-General Cunningham, the members of the Executive Council, General Reed, General Chamberlain, Post Commanders Holmes and Seaver, of the Cadets, and others. The dinner was in the approved style of the Parker House. During the evening short speeches were made by the Governor, Mayor Shurtleff, Lieutenant-Colonel Jeffries, General Foster, Rev. Dr. Lathrop, and others, and the occasion was one of much enjoyment to all present.

UNIFORMS have been procured for the students in the military department of the State University of Massachusetts, including coat, pants and cap, at a cost of \$36 for each suit. Boston furnishes the outfit. It is optional with the students whether they do or do not wear uniforms.

EMANCIPATION Day was observed, as usual, in Boston, New Year's Day. The Shaw Guards (colored) of that city, Captain James B. Watkins, assembled at their armory, corner of Cambridge and Grove streets, at 11 o'clock, and marched through the principal streets of the city. The officers of the National Guards of Providence and of the Schouler Guard of New Bedford joined the company, which marched up State street, and along Washington, School, and Beacon streets. In the evening a grand levee and ball took place in Faneuil Hall, at which prominent military men in the State were present. An address was delivered appropriate to the day.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, STATE OF NEW YORK, }
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, ALBANY, Jan. 8, 1869. }

General Orders No. 3.
I, Brigadier-General William H. Morris, commissary-general of ordnance, is hereby appointed acting assistant quartermaster-general, and, for the time being, will discharge all the duties of the Quartermaster-General's Department required by law, regulations or orders.

II. Brigadier-General Morris will receive from Brigadier-General George W. Palmer, late acting assistant quartermaster-general, a public property in the Quartermaster-General's Department.
By order of the Commander-in-Chief.

FRANKLIN TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. CAMERON.—As there is no such charge as perjury recognized by the Regulations, the sergeant should be tried for his false swearing under the charges of "conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline." We should doubt his conviction under the circumstances you mention. The fact that four witnesses swear they did not hear him called approbrious names is not sufficient proof that the sergeant was guilty of false swearing in asserting that he did hear it.

A. B.—There is no regulation in regard to the manner in which the sash shall be worn, with an overcoat, by the officer of the day. As the purpose of wearing the sash over the shoulder is to clearly distinguish the wearer as the officer of the day, it is best to wear it outside of the overcoat, although it is quite usual to wear it under the coat. There is no rule as to the manner of wearing the sash with epaulets, though we should wear it single over the shoulder.

A GENIUS in Nashville is reported to have perfected an invention consisting of a range of guns of 0.76 bore and about forty inches long, mounted on a carriage of very simple structure, to be hauled by one horse. The gun barrels, twelve in number, are ranged apparently parallel to each other upon this carriage, though their line of fire is not strictly parallel, but divergent, so that at three hundred yards' distance the twelve bullets sweep a line of about thirty feet. In the middle there is a space of ten inches, into which is placed a telescope of considerable power, and a nice arrangement for adjusting the guns in taking aim. The inventor claims that this contrivance enables the operator to send a bullet through the bull's eye at sixteen hundred yards nine times out of ten. The tubes themselves are rifled, are double the strength of ordinary rifles, and are made strong at the breech by a band six inches broad and one-sixth thick. They are all loaded at the breech. The breech pieces are all connected by a rod, which is attached to a crank, one turn of which opens and shuts all the breech pieces and loads the pieces, for the breech pieces, by this motion, brought in contact with twelve tubes placed immediately over the breeches, and containing the cartridges, the same turn extracting the cartridge from its tube, and inserting it with precision in its place in the gun. The guns are made ready for firing by a simple and rapid motion as the turning of a crank. They are fired by another slight motion, which drives twelve needles, inserted in the breech for the purpose, into the fulminate with which the cartridges are covered. Twenty-seven rounds are reported to have been fired in sixty-three seconds. The cartridges are four inches in length, and do not entirely explode until the ball is about half way out of the barrel, an effect which is produced by a nice arrangement of the material of which they are composed. Except the bullet the whole cartridge is combustible, and leaves nothing behind when fired off. The gun, it is asserted, will send a ball three miles, and the aim is always good at two thousand yards. The whole affair, when in fighting trim, weighs but five hundred pounds, and is intended to be hauled by one horse and worked by two men, one to drive and the other to operate. The loading and firing apparatus is so arranged that it can be detached in a moment, when the other part of the deadly engine becomes perfectly useless. One of them can be finished off complete, with horse, etc., for \$1,000. The inventor names his machine the Polyferi.

ALL SORTS OF CLIPPINGS.

W. G. MANKS, formerly a brigadier-general in the Union Army, is on trial at New Orleans for robbing the mail.

PERSONS who were dishonorably discharged from the Army find it difficult to obtain honorable civil positions.

NAPOLÉON has subscribed five thousand francs toward erecting a monument at Trieste to the memory of Maximilian.

THE *London Telegraph* heads an article with the sentence: "We never know exactly what the Americans meant by calling a man a 'festive cuss.'"

MOSBY Clark, born June, 1747, died recently, aged one hundred and twenty-one years and six months. "He fit in the Revolution—drove a baggage waggon."

As a means to putting a stop to the habit of shooting one another in the South upon the slightest provocation, it is proposed to cease giving reports of the rencounters in the newspapers.

THE *London Telegraph* argues that the police require something like military rule, especially as regards their hours of attendance, discipline, tact in the management of subordinates, and other points.

MINNESOTA pays a bounty of ten dollars a head for wolves' scalps, and has paid during the past year \$11,300. The wolves are increasing in number, giving ground for the suspicion that some one is raising wolves.

UNTIL May, 1869, the Argentine government offers \$8,000 in gold, and the Brazilian government \$10,000, to any one who will invent a process by which meat may be preserved fresh and juicy for six months.

THE Memphis *Avalanche* thinks it will offend no one in saying that Jefferson Davis did not deserve the respect and unbroken adhesion of his people any more than Washington, which is certainly a very mild way of putting it.

MR. Charles Feldner, a German manager, who was in this country last spring, writes to a German paper that he used every effort to induce Mr. Henry Ward Beecher to visit Germany and make a lecturing tour, but that he rejected even the most liberal offers.

INTERESTING developments are being made in regard to parties who were during the war in the constant pay of the United States and regularly reported all important proceedings in the Confederacy—even the proceedings of the Virginia Legislature while in secret session.

SOME champion of Boston, defending her against a scolding attack in a Chicago paper, writes in this style: "Assured and many-sided, her feet bathed in the ocean, her spires pointing to the azure, she wears with singular grace and modesty the character she has achieved."

THE widow of one of the most distinguished of the lieutenant-generals of the Confederate Army, who, before the war, possessed great wealth, and had been reared from infancy in the midst of every enjoyment and luxury, is now a teacher in a young ladies' school in New Orleans.

ATTORNEY GENERAL EVARTS has issued instructions to all the district attorneys in the United States ordering them to discontinue proceedings against all persons accused of treasonable offences for acts committed during the late rebellion. This proceeding effectually settles the whole question as to the operation of President Johnson's amnesty proclamation.

THE singular gelatinous substance formed at the bottom of the Atlantic is now undergoing investigation under the microscope of Professor Huxley. He terms it Bathybius. By some it is regarded as a gigantic Protozoan, extending over miles of surface, and yet all one living mass. It is the lowest form of living animal matter, and must apparently have, like plants, the power of obtaining food from the inorganic world.

By divine command, communicated through Brigham Young, all the saintly shopkeepers of Salt Lake are now obliged to surmount their signboards with a mark of their faith. This consists of an arched inscription "Holiness to the Lord," with the All-Seeing Eye in the centre. Mormons are instructed to trade only at these "bull's eye shops," as the Gentiles irreverently call them.

AN old gentleman was recently waiting for the cars in the depot of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad, when looking over the great building, he exclaimed, "Only think of it! But a little over thirty years ago I was offered eighty acres of land, on part of which this depot is now built, for a sorrel horse and saddle, and I was blamed fool enough to keep the sorrel."

THE republic of San Marino has refused the Italian Government the privilege of erecting a telegraphic station on its territory.

The proposed construction had been represented to the council of this small state to constitute an exceptional advantage, as everything would be done at the cost of the Cabinet of Florence. The probability is that this little commonwealth is unwilling to enter into any relations with Italy from the dread of a future annexation.

An Episcopal clergyman has been stirring up the people of New York with a series of sermons under the title of "Protestantism a failure." As one result the New York *Evening Post* publishes an advertisement of a pew in a fashionable church, which the advertiser says "is a very desirable pew, and was in great demand before Protestantism was declared a failure."

OWING to the absence of the minister, a lay member of the congregation was invited to read a sermon at the morning service in a church in Kingston, N. Y., a few Sundays ago. In the afternoon a clergyman from a neighboring place occupied the pulpit and preached a sermon. Oddly enough, it happened to be the identical sermon which the lay member had read in the morning.

THE celebrated Russian artist, Count de Beerski, died in Rochester lately. De Beerski entered the Russian army when very young, and at the time he was exiled, upon the accession of the Emperor Nicholas, he was lieutenant-colonel of the Imperial Guard. He then devoted himself to his art, the painting of miniatures. He visited and was received at nearly all the courts of Europe, and painted portraits of very many of the nobility.

OF the 177,000 British troops, not including officers, scattered over the world, the 13,000 stationed in British America exhibit the highest average of good health, the deaths being 9.1, while the statistics at home showed for the same time 9.3. But, in 1866, both these averages were surpassed by that for Gibraltar and Malta, which was 8.89, although the British American station was the best on the list in all other sanitary respects, the non-effective from sickness averaging 28.92, while at the two former stations the average for the same period was 42.86, and at home 51.26.

THE remarkable fact of one of the boats of the sunken steamer *Hibernia* having reached the coast of Ireland after a voyage of 700 miles, with only three of the twenty-eight passengers who embarked in her, has given currency to the thought that perhaps a means of mid-ocean safety might be found for shipwrecked sufferers. It will be remembered that among the early discussions, pertaining to the laying of ocean cables, a scheme was broached which looked to the establishment of stations at short intervals. Iron buoys were to be anchored in the water low enough down to be out of reach of the current and storm waves, and these were to answer as foundations for the superstructure.

ACCORDING to a travelling correspondent of a San Francisco paper, the great inland city which is to grow upon and be fed and sustained by the Pacific Railroad, is Winnemucca, a little place in Nevada, almost unknown, and at present only "a debilitated one-story cross-roads," but, the most important point east of the Reno, on the Central Pacific Road, and destined, in the opinion of this enthusiast, to become the great Central distributing point on the Plains. He contends that "there is more business in one iron horse than all the bull teams in the Great Basin," and that as branch railroads will connect the main line with Oregon, Idaho, Arizona, Northern and Southern California and Montana, they must converge at the best situated point, and this is the town of Winnemucca.

SOME stir has been caused in England by the receipt by the Royal Geographical Society of a bullock's hide, sent from Zanzibar, certain characters upon which are thought to indicate the existence of English, or at least Europeans, held in captivity in the interior of Africa. The hide was purchased from a Somali caravan, and the buyer, finding English characters cut upon it, took it to the English consulate, saying he had previously seen other hides marked in the same way. The marks are produced by scraping or cutting off the hair, so as to preclude the idea that they were made in branding the living cattle; and they consist of four unmistakable English letters, N H E B, with one character which is not a letter. It is proposed to send out an expedition to effect the ransom of the supposed prisoners.

A NEW process for refining iron without "puddling" has been creating a sensation among iron manufacturers in Pittsburgh. The process consists simply in combining, mechanically, oxides of iron with melted crude metal. If the mixture is thoroughly effected, the result is instantly a malleable iron, superior to the best puddled balls. It is then only necessary to heat it as blooms

are heated, and put it through the machinery, to produce the best quality of horse-shoe bars from material which, if puddled, would yield only common iron. Extensive experiments in the process have been made at the Schoenberger and Juniata Iron Works, Pittsburgh. The principles involved are not patentable, it is said—the only new thing in the process being the proportion of hot and cold metal used.

SYBEL's *Historical Journal* for November 4th contained an article by a German historian, M. Bergenroth, professing to give the particulars of an extraordinary State secret just now brought to light, three centuries after the events occurred. Juana, the mother of the Emperor Charles V., was the legitimate queen of Spain. The histories have always stated that she became insane on the death of her husband Philip. It appears to be proved by the letters of Charles V., now published, that she was not mad at all, but was imprisoned for fifty years, first by her father Ferdinand, and afterward by her son Charles, in order that they might hold the throne in her place, and abused and maltreated in the most cruel manner. It is stated that these persecutions were originally instituted by Queen Isabella, on account of the supposed heretical notions of poor Juana.

A YOUNG man was passing through a wood near the road from Chatham to Maidstone, when he noticed a mark on a tree. This exciting his suspicion he examined the ground at the foot of the tree, when turning up the mould he discovered a number of corked bottles, which he found to be filled with copper nails. He immediately gave information to the police of the Chatham Dockyard, from which the nails had been stolen, and in searching about the officers found more trees marked, and more bottles containing copper nails were dug up at the foot of each tree. In all, as much as forty-three pounds of nails were discovered. The bottles must have been deposited at different periods, for some of the corks were much rotted. In each bottle was a paper stating the weight of the nails contained in it. The broad arrow had been neatly clipped from most of the nails. The thief has not been discovered, though a good watch has been kept in the wood.

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MARRIED.

[Announcements of Marriages should be paid for at the rate of fifty cents each.]

KELLY—SYLVESTER.—At Bath, Me., December 30th, Ordinance Sergeant DENIS KELLY, U. S. A., of Fort Popham, to Miss ARBY E. SYLVESTER, of Philadelphia.

ELLIOTT—POWELL.—At the residence of the bride's father, near New Castle, Ind., Wednesday, Jan. 6, 1869, by the Rev. V. M. Beamer, Master W. H. ELLIOTT, U. S. N., to KATE, only daughter of S. T. and Elizabeth Powell.

GIBSON—ADDISON.—On Saturday, December 26th, by the Rev. Mr. Girault, Commander Wm. GIBSON, U. S. N., to MARY MURRAY, second daughter of the late Lloyd Dulaney Addison.

DIED.

KELLS.—January 9th, MAGDALENA E., wife of D. W. C. Kells, U. S. N., aged 27 years, 6 months, 3 days.

KING.—At Brooklyn, N. Y., January 4, 1869, ESTHER HOWARD, infant daughter of Jesse Howard and Horatio C. King, late U. S. Vols., aged 4 months and 11 days.

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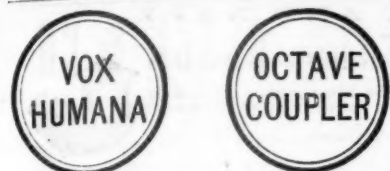
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OFFICE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER,
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Sealed Proposals will be received at this office, until 12 o'clock M., on the thirtieth day of January, 1869, for the transportation of Military Supplies during the year commencing April 1, 1869, and ending March 31, 1870, on Route No. 4, from Saint Paul, Minn., or Saint Cloud, Minn., by the shortest road or line to such Posts as are now or may be established in the State of Minnesota, and in that portion of Dakota Territory lying east of the Missouri River and bounded by it, and from Fort Stevenson or other designated points on the Missouri River eastward to present Posts, or such as may be established east or north of that river, in Dakota Territory.

The weight to be transported on this Route No. 4, shall not exceed Ten Million pounds (10,000,000 lb.). Bidders will state the rate per one hundred (100) pounds per one hundred (100) miles for each month of the year, beginning April 1, 1869 and ending March 31, 1870.

Bidders should give their names in full as well as their places of residence, and each proposal should be accompanied by a Bond in the sum of ten thousand dollars, signed by two or more responsible persons, guaranteeing that in case a contract is awarded for the route mentioned in the proposal to the party proposing, the contract will be accepted and entered into, and good and sufficient security furnished by said party in accordance with the terms of this advertisement.

The contractor will be required to give bonds in the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (100,000). Satisfactory evidence of the loyalty and solvency of each bidder and person offered as security will be required. And before an award to any bidder is made, he will be required to give satisfactory evidence of his ability and means to carry out fairly and fully such a contract.

Proposals must be indorsed "Proposals for Army Transportation on Route No. 4," and none will be entertained unless they fully comply with the requirements of this advertisement.

The party to whom an award is made must be prepared to execute the contract at once, and to give the required bonds for the faithful performance of the contract.

The right to reject any and all bids that may be offered is reserved.

The contractor must be in readiness for service by the first day of April, 1869, and will be required to have a place of business or agency at which he may be communicated with promptly and readily for Route No. 4, at St. Paul, Minn., Fort Stevenson, Dakota Territory, or at such other point as may be indicated as a starting point of the route.

Blank forms, showing the conditions of the contract to be entered into, can be had on application at this office, or at the office of the of the Quartermaster at New York, Chicago, St. Louis, Fort Leavenworth, and Omaha, and must accompany and be a part of the proposals.

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